

## U.S. official in Cyprus for talks

NICOSIA (R) — A U.S. State Department official met a senior Turkish Cypriot official Friday to discuss a United Nations initiative aimed at re-uniting Cyprus. Counsellor Edward Derwinsky had a working lunch with Kenan Atakol, foreign minister of the self-proclaimed Turkish republic of north Cyprus which is recognised only by Turkey, whose troops invaded and divided the island in 1974. Mr. Derwinsky told reporters he had no special message from the U.S. government. "It's got to do primarily with the (U.N.) secretary-general's initiative which we are pleased to encourage and which we hope will eventually succeed," he said. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in June that the Cypriot government in the south had accepted a new "consolidated draft agreement on Cyprus."

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
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## New U.S. official to visit Mideast

WASHINGTON (R) — New U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead leaves here Friday on a five-nation Middle East trip to familiarise himself with the region and its key figures, the State Department said Friday. Department spokesman Charles Redman said Mr. Whitehead would visit Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Israel and Morocco. Citing security reasons, he refused to give a detailed itinerary. Mr. Redman emphasised that Mr. Whitehead's trip would "not be a negotiating one, but an opportunity to become broadly acquainted with the region." Mr. Whitehead formally assumed his new position on July 15 after his nomination was confirmed by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He replaced Kenneth Dam, who resigned from government to go into business.

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## Arafat receives Soviet message

AMMAN (J.T.) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has received an "important" message from the Soviet leadership, the Palestinian news agency, Wafa, reported Thursday. Wafa said the message was delivered to Mr. Arafat by the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis. It did not give any details of the message, but said it was in reply to a congratulatory message sent by Mr. Arafat to Andrei Gromyko, who was elected Soviet president last month after serving as foreign minister for about three decades.

## Galilee mayors threaten strike

AMMAN (J.T.) — Arab mayors in the Galilee region have threatened to stage a strike against Israel's anti-Arab Jewish violence and Israel's arbitrary measures against the Palestinians living in the occupied territories, the Palestinian news agency, Wafa, reported Thursday. Quoting a statement issued by the mayors after a meeting on Wednesday evening, Wafa said the mayors condemned the Jewish rampage against Arabs after the discovery of the dead bodies of two Israeli teachers and the killing of an Israeli army employee in Nablus.

## Gorbachev assumes high defence post

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has assumed the chairmanship of the powerful Defence Committee, which has supreme control of the armed forces in the event of war, according to a senior Soviet official. Leonid Zamyatin, head of the Communist Party Central Committee's International Information Department, confirmed for the first time in public that the defence post automatically went with the party leadership. Asked at a Moscow press conference if Mr. Gorbachev held the defence post, Mr. Zamyatin replied: "Yes. Under our regulations, the (party's) general secretary is also chairman of the defence committee."

## Denmark closes consulate in S. Africa

COPENHAGEN (R) — Denmark announced Friday it had closed its general consulate in South Africa, where it has no embassy, in protest against apartheid and the state of emergency imposed on July 21. A Foreign Ministry official here told Reuters the move, had been taken to demonstrate to Pretoria the seriousness of Denmark's opposition to apartheid and its criticism of the current state of emergency (See story on page 8).

## Norway reopens embassy in Beirut

OSLO (AP) — Norway reopened its embassy in west Beirut Friday after having kept it closed since June 15, the Foreign Ministry announced here Friday. Press spokesman Per Faust said the embassy staffers consider the situation in Beirut somewhat safer now than in June when temporarily moving to Damascus.

# Potash and fertiliser firms to boost capital

Committee probes financial status, marketing practices of Jordan's heavy industries

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Financial, Economic and Planning Committee Friday decided to raise the capital of the Arab Potash Company (APC) by JD 16 million over a period of two years and to raise the capital of the Jordan Fertilisers Industry Company (JFIC) by a maximum of JD 35 million over the next three years. Contacts with shareholders will be made to speed up the implementation of this decision, according to a statement issued at the end of the committee's meetings Thursday and Friday.

The financial situation of the two companies was one of the major subjects of discussion during the committee's meetings held on Thursday and Friday and presided over by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai.

Both the APC and the JFIC have sustained large losses for the second consecutive year which

prompted the government to investigate the reasons behind the losses.

Government investment in the two major industrial projects is JD 80 million.

With the proposed increases, the capital of the APC will amount to JD 79 million of which the government owns 51 per cent. Other shareholders are the Arab Mining Company, the Kuwaiti government, the Islamic Bank, the Iraqi and Libyan governments, the Saudi government, the Jordan Post Fund and individual shareholders.

The JFIC has been requested to cooperate with the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPIC) to conduct experiments on the possible uses of various kinds of phosphates, particularly low quality phosphates which have proved difficult to market. The experiments would determine the

(Continued on page 3)

## 2 killed, 10 wounded in Israeli air attack on SNSP base

SHTOURA, Lebanon (Agencies) — At least two people were killed and 10 wounded in an Israeli air raid Friday on a base of the Syrian National Socialist Party (SNSP) in this eastern Lebanese town.

Officials of the SNSP, which claimed responsibility for seven suicide bomb attacks against the Israeli occupation forces in South Lebanon, said the party's finance chief, Hayez Sayegh, and four other leaders left the building only minutes before the raid.

The SNSP said two SNSP militants were killed and four wounded in the strike, the second Israeli air raid in the Bekaa Valley this week.

The attack at 9:15 a.m. (0615 GMT) came two days after the SNSP's latest suicide bombing in Israel's self-styled "security belt" in South Lebanon.

Eyewitnesses told the AP three

Israelis and five Lebanese were killed when a 22-year-old SNSP bomber rammed a car packed with explosives into an Israeli patrol in the village of Amman.

The Israelis claimed only two of their soldiers were slightly wounded, with a Lebanese and the car driver killed. It was the seventh SNSP suicide strike this year.

In Beirut, the SNSP's chief spokesman, Habib Kayrouz, vowed his guerrillas will step up their attacks and strike "into the heart of Israel."

SNSP officials said four high-flying warplanes, identified as U.S.-built F-4 Phantoms, took part in raid on the base on the outskirts of Shtoura, 16 kilometres west of the Syrian border.

Two bombed the two-storey building, a former hotel 50 metres off the Beirut-Damascus highway, while the other two circled above

giving cover against Syrian interceptors.

In Beirut, an ambulance service spokesman reported three dead and 10 wounded in the raid.

In Damascus, a Syrian army spokesman said "a number of civilians, mostly children, women and old people, were killed or wounded in the raid and some houses were destroyed."

The spokesman said "our defences in the area confronted them (the planes) and forced them to flee."

Residents in Shtoura said they heard "some anti-aircraft fire" from Syrian batteries scattered across the valley.

Red Cross volunteers dragged the dead and wounded from the pile of concrete, metal and sandstone. Shtoura-based Syrian

(Continued on page 3)

## Shultz-Shevardnadze talks spark new detente hopes

HELSINKI (R) — The United States and the Soviet Union have both voiced hopes for an East-West thaw following ice-breaking talks between their foreign ministers in Helsinki.

Statements issued by the two powers Thursday after the meeting between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze were among the most optimistic in tone since relations began to sour more than five years ago.

In Washington, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the talks had conveyed a sense of purpose on the part of the Soviet Union to deal seriously with problems between them.

Leaving for home at the close of a three-day East-West gathering to mark the 1975 Helsinki detente

agreements, Mr. Shevardnadze said his talks with Mr. Shultz and other Western ministers had marked a step forward towards easing tensions.

"We could feel a serious concern about the existing tension in the world, and at the same time a willingness to work in the direction of detente," he added.

Both sides have described the meeting between the U.S. and Soviet ministers as successful groundwork for an all-important summit between President Reagan and Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev in November.

Western foreign ministers at the 35-nation Helsinki gathering spoke of indications that Moscow might be ready to give a boost to East-West relations by making

(Continued on page 3)

## U.S. Senate team to meet Gorbachev

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd said Friday he will meet Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in early September and deliver a letter from President Reagan.

The West Virginia Democrat announced at a news conference that Mr. Gorbachev has agreed to meet with a U.S. Senate delegation on either Sept. 2 or 3 in Moscow, two months before Mr. Reagan's scheduled summit meeting with Mr. Gorbachev in Geneva.

A purpose of the meeting with the Soviet leader will be "to clear the air on the way" for Mr. Reagan's meeting in Geneva on Nov. 19 and 20, said the opposition leader of the Republican-led Senate.

The highest ranking U.S. political figure to see Mr. Gorbachev has been Vice-President George Bush who attended the funeral of Mr. Gorbachev's predecessor, Konstantin Chernenko in March.

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige also talked with Mr. Gorbachev while on a trade mission to Moscow.

In the case of Libya, which, until



SCENE AFTER RAID: A member of Lebanon's Syrian National Socialist Party (SNSP) holds a flag of the party at the ruins of an SNSP building in Shtoura, east Lebanon, which was the target of an Israeli air raid Friday (see story on left).

## Algeria and Libya may send ministerial delegations to summit

By Lami K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prospects for a majority Arab participation in an extraordinary Arab summit due to convene in Casablanca on Aug. 7 appeared stronger Friday amidst reports that Algeria and Libya are expected to send ministerial delegations to the conference.

Both Algeria and Libya had voiced strong reservations against the meeting but stopped short of officially announcing that they would not attend it. But, according to well-informed Arab diplomats in Amman, intensive Arab consultations and deliberations over the last week indicated that both Algeria and Libya will participate in the summit though not on heads of state level.

A proposal by King Hassan of Morocco to convene the planned special Arab summit to discuss Arab affairs and the Palestinian question has gained the official backing of more than 12 Arab countries. The diplomats here expect the required quorum of 17 Arab countries to be achieved despite Syria's decision to boycott the meeting. During a press conference last week King Hassan clearly indicated that the absence of some Arab states would not impede the convening of the conference on schedule.

Algeria, a close ally of Syria, had severely criticised the Moroccan proposal and said, "it would only accentuate Arab divisions." But, the diplomats here said Algeria is not likely to follow Syria and boycott the summit for two reasons: First, to avoid an "inevitable split" in the Arab World in which Algeria would find itself compelled to join a Syrian-led axis. "Over the past years Algeria has succeeded in cultivating good relations with most Arab countries regardless of their different ideological inclinations," they explained. "Consequently, it is most unlikely that it will take any step to jeopardise its position in the Arab World."

The second reason cited by the diplomats was that Algeria's policies have "moderated" over the last few years and its "calculations might be a little different than those of Syria." They refer to a recent meeting between Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Addis Ababa as a clear example of Algeria's "policy shift."

According to seasoned political observers, Algeria's participation in the summit is anticipated and welcomed by the conference proponents, particularly Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), since it would "weaken" the Syrian position.

In the case of Libya, which, until



AP wirephoto

building in Shtoura, east Lebanon, which was the target of an Israeli air raid Friday (see story on left).

## Israelis close Al Najah University

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli occupation authorities closed Al Najah University in the West Bank city of Nablus on Friday for two months after finding what it described as propaganda material there, the military command announced.

The command said the closure of the university was ordered after "inflammatory propaganda" material calling for anti-Israeli "terrorist activity" was found during searches on Wednesday, and following gatherings of students in support of Palestinian groups.

Nablus, 50 kilometres north of Jerusalem, is the largest city in the West Bank, with a population of 50,000.

Parts of the city were placed under curfew after an Israeli army employee was shot dead by an unidentified attacker on Tuesday. Two Palestinians from the nearby town of Tubas were found dead in the previous week in what Palestinians said was a "revenge" attack by Jewish extremists for the killing of two Israeli teachers.

Al Najah, a centre of Palestinian nationalist activity, was last closed almost exactly a year ago, on July 31, 1984, and reopened four months later.

Birzeit University north of Ramallah, another centre of Palestinian nationalism, was closed by the army for two months in March. Soldiers stormed the campus and raided a Palestinian exhibition.

"These closures are having a devastating effect on our academic life," university president Muthar Salah told reporters last year.

Meanwhile, an Israeli military judge on Friday approved an order for detention for at least six months a Palestinian released in a prisoner exchange last May.

Ziyad Abu 'Ein, 26, was extradited from the United States in 1981 and sentenced to life in prison in 1982 for an alleged 1979 bombing attack in Tiberias.

(Continued on page 3)

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## OPENING OF A CLINIC

Dr. Mutal H. Mithyar

Dermatologist & Venereologist  
M.B. B.Ch., M.Sc (D.V.), J.M.C.C. (D.V.)  
Former Dermatology & Venereology specialist at Al-Bashir Hospital. Announces the opening of his private clinic located at Sukaina building, Jebel El-Husseini, next to B.B.M.E., 2nd floor.

Tel: 603030  
Clinic hours: 9-1 a.m., 4-7 p.m.



## Car bomb causes heavy damage in Lebanese port

BEIRUT (R) — A large car bomb exploded at dawn Friday outside offices of the powerful Falangist "Lebanese Forces" militia in the port of Jounieh north of Beirut, causing heavy damage but no casualties, security sources said.

The blast was denounced by a Falangist radio station as an attempt to sabotage a reconciliation between the militia and north Lebanon's Maronite Christian strongman, Suleiman Franjeh.

The bomb exploded in a Mercedes car parked outside a branch office of the militia in Jounieh. The Falangist Voice of Lebanon radio station, which is close to the militia, said: "The hands of evil work to create an atmosphere of tension and sedition whenever signs of stability appear on the horizon. We note this explosion comes at a time when an important positive step has been taken to reconcile Christians."

Former Lebanese President Franjeh last Wednesday ended a seven-year freeze on ties with the Lebanese Forces in a meeting with militia chief Elie Hobeika.

The meeting was seen widely as the most important development among Lebanon's Christians since the militia revolted last March against President Amin Gemayel's position as Christian leader and dominant figure in the Falangist.

Mr. Franjeh, an opponent of the Gemayel family, followed his meeting with Mr. Hobeika with a fresh call Thursday for the president's resignation.

The 75-year-old, chieftain broke ties with the Lebanese Forces after it murdered his son and some 30 kinsmen in 1978. The militia was then headed by Mr. Gemayel's brother, Bashir.

Friday's bomb followed overnight artillery exchanges along Beirut's "Green Line" battlefield and in hills above the capital, radio reports said.

State-owned Beirut Radio reported one person killed and 13 wounded by what it called indiscriminate shelling of Falangist and opposition residential areas.

The exchanges provoked rocket and machine-gun battles along one of the 12 kilometre confrontation line, the radios said.

The Voice of Lebanon station said army positions on a ridge protecting the presidential palace in east Beirut came under artillery fire from gunners of the mainly-Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

The clashes tailed off into sniper fire around dawn, radios said. The major "Museum" Road across the battlefield, closed briefly Thursday by shelling, was open to traffic.

Mr. Franjeh, a former president who commands a large Christian fiefdom in north Lebanon, told reporters that civil war could be ended only after "the sick head (of state) steps down."

He said that "cutting off the head" was the only hope of a return to normal life, adding: "This will happen soon."

Mr. Franjeh, under whose presidency civil war erupted 10 years ago, said he found no differences of opinion with Hobeika when they met Thursday.

The Falange Party newspaper Al Amal said the meeting was "a decisive political turn" that could allow Falangists to negotiate peace with the opposition from a position of strength.

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**CROWN PRINCE RETURNS** — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is greeted upon his return to Amman Thursday at the end of private visits to the United States, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. Prince Hassan took part in an international conference in Geneva on the proliferation of nuclear arms which was attended by several world personalities. Prince Hassan was greeted upon return at the airport by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasbi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid and Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and other officials (Petra photo).

## Lebanon July death toll down to 260

BEIRUT (R) — About 260 people died violently in Lebanon last month, 40 of them in suicide attacks on Israeli or Israeli-backed forces in the South, according to figures released by security, hospital and militia sources.

The total, which includes some 80 killed in non-political violence, is down from about 300 in June and less than half that of May, when more than 670 died in the country's most lethal period since September 1983.

Three Lebanese were killed Wednesday by a suicide car bomber, the first such attack within Israel's South Lebanon so-called "security zone," witnesses said.

Other suicide car bombs on the edge of the zone during July killed four Israeli-backed militiamen and about 30 Lebanese civilians but are not known to have killed Israelis.

Elsewhere in the South, Israeli troops and their client militias killed at least 19 people in anti-resistance raids or by shell and gunfire directed from their strongpoints at Shi'ite Muslim villages on the edge of the zone.

Four people were killed for suspected collaboration with the Israelis.

At least 47 died in fighting between the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party and Muslim fundamentalist groups in the northern port of Tripoli.

On the city's outskirts, 35 people including three children were killed in an Israeli air raid on two Palestinian refugee camps. At least seven commandos of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) were among the dead there.

Shooting and shelling between rival Falangist and opposition militias on Beirut's "green line" battlefield killed 28 people.

## U.S., Egypt to start largest exercise Sunday

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and Egypt begin their largest joint military manoeuvres ever on Sunday but Sudan's new military government has declined to take part.

Smaller U.S.-Soviet joint manoeuvres are already under way as part of an exercise in military cooperation codenamed Bright Star 85.

Western diplomats say Oman will also participate in exercises with American troops, as it has in past years. Neither government acknowledges this publicly.

The Egypt exercise involving 9,000 U.S. servicemen as well as Egyptian troops is the largest such operation yet undertaken, the Defense Department says. Some 5,000 U.S. troops took part in 1983 and 1,400 in 1981.

But the Khartoum leaders who seized power in Sudan from President Jaafar Numeiri last April have decided not to participate, the Pentagon announced Thursday.

Sudanese troops were involved in Bright Star 83.

The new Sudanese government has displayed greater independence from Washington and developed closer ties with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, whom the United States has accused of fomenting terrorism and destabilising the region.

The State Department expressed concern after Sudan recently restored formal relations with Libya, which Washington is seeking to isolate diplomatically.

"We have no indication that there was Libyan influence" in Sudan's decision to skip Bright Star 85, a Pentagon spokesman said. But he added Washington was watching the growing Sudan-Libya link very closely.

The six-day Egypt manoeuvres include a naval exercise and amphibious landing near Alexandria on Sunday, a paratroop drop and mock B-52 bombing raid on Tuesday, and desert war games.

Somalia, America's closest ally on the strategic Horn of Africa near the oil-rich Gulf, Thursday began 12-day joint exercises with 140 American troops.

The Oman exercises are sensitive because Oman does not want to offend Arab neighbours who might object to a U.S. presence.

Washington has taken pains to preserve cordial ties with Sudan and is providing \$47 million in military aid this year.

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## Spadolini: EC can play important role in Mideast

CAIRO (Petra) — Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini was quoted here as saying that the European Community (EC) can play an important role in the Middle East peace process by coordinating its diplomatic contacts with the United States.

Mr. Spadolini was quoted by Al Mawazir magazine as saying that Europe cannot play a role in the region independently from the United States.

Mr. Spadolini, who was expected to start a visit to Egypt Friday, said that Italy is also concerned with handling a balanced role in the Mediterranean region.

The establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is viable despite the obstacles in the way, Mr. Spadolini added.

He also said that the Gulf War is a source of concern to the European Community, specially those countries which depend on the Gulf for oil.

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## Kach Party gathering support, poll shows

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Almost one-tenth of Israeli voters now support the extremist Kach Party, which campaigns to expel Arabs from Israel and the occupied West Bank, according to an opinion poll published Friday.

The poll, published in the newspaper Haaretz, showed that Kach would win nine per cent of the vote compared to 1.2 per cent in last year's election.

Parliament passed legislation this week banning racist and anti-democratic parties from standing in future elections. The law was aimed at Kach, which at present has no parliamentary representation.

The poll found that Kach and the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party were wooing right-wing voters from the Likud Bloc of former Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Support for Likud now stood at 22.8 per cent compared to 31.9 per cent a year ago. The Labour Party of Prime Minister Shimon Peres retained its lead in the poll with 36.1 per cent.

Meanwhile Israel's Chief of Staff General Moshe Levy came out against the death penalty Friday in the debate over whether to execute Arab commandos.

Interviewed on State Radio, Gen. Levy said the death penalty had a deterrent value but after examining the question he opposed executing commandos.

Right-wingers, led by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, have been pressing for the death penalty following recent killings of Israelis by commandos. The cabinet is due to discuss the issue on Sunday.

Gen. Levy also opposed a call by Trade Minister Ariel Sharon for strikes against Palestinian command posts in Jordan. He told the radio the Jordanian government had the power to prevent commando attacks from Jordan itself.

Charles Redman, State Department Deputy Spokesman has said the "United States is firmly opposed to terrorism in any form. We join civilised people everywhere in expressing our shock and outrage over the deaths on the West Bank this week. We hope perpetrators of these senseless crimes are brought to justice."

He made the comments in reaction to the guerrilla killings this week of both Jews and Arabs on the West Bank.

On another topic concerning Israel, a U.S. official was later asked to comment on the remarks of Sharon, who said reported new Palestinian bases in Jordan should not be immune from Israeli attack. The U.S. official said he had no specific comment and noted Sharon's comments are understood not to be an Israeli government policy statement.

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19:35 ..... News Programme  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Decree approves \$30m loan agreement.

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing a \$30 million loan agreement between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the World Bank. The loan will be used to finance the Greater Amman water and sewerage project.

## Former minister, judge passes away

AMMAN (Petra) — Former judge and cabinet minister Shukri Al Muhadi has passed away and a statement from the Prime Ministry said that Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai is deeply grieved at the death of Mr. Muhadi who had served as minister of reconstruction and development in 1967. Mr. Muhadi also held several judicial posts and served as legal advisor at the Prime Ministry.

## Union leaders conclude training course

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Al Haj Hassan Thursday attended a ceremony for the graduation of 30 labour union leaders who completed a training course at the Arab centre for workers education. He made a speech on the occasion in which he stressed the importance of such courses to benefit the labour movement in Jordan.

## Assad receives university team

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad received in his office Thursday a delegation from the Jesuit University of Beirut and discussed cooperation and exchange of expertise between the ministry and the university.

## Khatib to open British book display

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Minister of Information, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Al Khatib, an exhibition of British books will open Saturday at the British Council in Amman. During the exhibition, the latest books on science, humanities, politics, economics, culture and information as well as novels will be sold. There will also be a section on Middle East politics and social affairs.

## Administration meetings to start today

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting to assess the utilisation of the Arabic language for administration in the Arab Maghreb and Somalia is expected to open Saturday at the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS). Utilisation of Arabic in administrative systems is one of pilot draft projects adopted by the AOAS.

## Committee probes industries

(Continued from page 1)

qualities to be used for local production and export. The government has also called on both the JPMC and the JFIC to adopt a "flexible plan" to produce phosphate fertilisers with the aim of producing the best commercial products at competitive prices.

An authoritative source had earlier told the Jordan Times that the JFIC should be designed to absorb low standard phosphates, which could not be marketed internationally. However, because of technical reasons, high quality phosphates are currently being used resulting in large quantities of low standard phosphates remaining in storage because they are facing marketing problems, he said. The source also pointed out that all neighbouring Arab countries utilise the low standard phosphates in local industries and export the high quality phosphates.

JPMC's Ruseifa's mines have been closed since the beginning of 1985 due to marketing problems resulting from the low standard phosphates produced by the mine. The Ruseifa mines are the only mines in Jordan that yield below standard phosphates.

The committee meeting also held intensive discussions on merging the Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC) and the South Cement Company (SCC) into one company. The committee also discussed the possible financial circumstances of the new company after the amalgamation.

The committee decided to merge the two companies in one and to safeguard the rights of shareholders. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply was charged with the legal procedures for implementing the merger as soon as possible.

Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajal Muasher had earlier attributed the losses of Jordan's heavy industries to "various difficulties in the first few years of operation." He cited some of the major industrial problems as "a lack of accuracy in implementing feasibility studies for those projects," "in terms of expenses, duration period for construction and marketing possibilities in addition to the lack of technical and qualitative studies to operate those projects, the sky-high operating costs and managing expenses which led to a jump in production costs."

Dr. Muasher, in an earlier interview with the Jordan Times, said the Agaba-based JFIC's imported raw materials represent 93 per cent of the production cost, whereas the only seven per cent of the budget is allocated for workers' salaries and operating processes.

He also pointed out that the APC feasibility study did not take into consideration several issues when it was up-dated and added that the company experienced "technical difficulties" which have meant that the company was not able to reach its design capacity for production.

The SCC, although it produces fine quality cement of international standards, has experienced difficulties due to "miscalculations in the feasibility study," Dr. Muasher said.

The minister said that since the construction boom is over and because Saudi Arabia, which was formerly a major importer of Jordanian cement, has built its own cement factories, the SCC is facing marketing problems.

"When the study was first conducted in the seventies, there was a boom in the regional demand for cement, but by the time the SCC was operational, demand for cement had declined and several similar industries were established in neighbouring countries," he said.



Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Thursday meets with Bedouin leaders from the northern areas of Jordan (Petra photo).

## Bedouin tribes reaffirm total support for King's stands

AMMAN (Petra) — Bedouin tribes from Mafrag and the northern Badia regions in Jordan have reaffirmed their total support for His Majesty King Hussein's national leadership and voiced their condemnation of the assassination last month in Turkey of Ziad Al Sati, first secretary at the Jordanian embassy in Ankara.

A cable sent to the King by deputy speaker of the house, Mr. Ismail Hijazi, also voiced allegiance to the Hashemite throne and full confidence in the King's wise leadership.

They voiced their appreciation for the government's efforts to serve the country in various fields. The delegation submitted to Mr. Rifai a number of requests from their community connected with the improvement of services in the Mafrag region.

Speaking in reply, Mr. Rifai said that the government, upon directives from the King, is keen to keep all channels of communication open with Jordanian citizens in all regions of the country to discuss and find solutions to problems and thereby help promote the country's progress and prosperity.

One of the requests was about raising the administrative level of Mafrag, district-governorate, to governorate, and the prime minister said that the government will give due consideration to this question.

The SPSF advocates a "greater Syria" made up of Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait and Cyprus. Although it has spearheaded attacks against the Israelis and their allies, Friday's raid was the first Israeli retaliatory strike against an SPSF base this year.

Israeli jets attacked a Palestinian base in Bar Elias, about two kilometres west of Shtoura, on Monday following an earlier suicide bombing.

Reporters who visited the Libyan-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command base after the attack saw craters in the ground around the base, but the building was intact.

Mr. Kayrouz told the Associated Press on Friday: "Our operations will not be limited to Israeli troops in Lebanon. We shall carry them across the border and strike into the heart of Israel."

"Blood streams will never dry up," he said. Two hours after the raid, two Israeli warplanes caused sonic booms over the Bekaa Valley and in Beirut when they flew over apparently on a photo-reconnaissance mission.

## Lower House condemns assassination of Sati

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament has expressed its total support for and pride in His Majesty King Hussein's national leadership and voiced its condemnation of the assassination last month in Turkey of Ziad Al Sati, first secretary at the Jordanian embassy in Ankara.

A cable sent to the King by deputy speaker of the house, Mr. Ismail Hijazi, also voiced allegiance to the Hashemite throne and full confidence in the King's wise leadership.

## Farhan outlines SSC projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Social Security Corporation (SSC) had invested about JD 117 million in housing projects in the outskirts of Amman, Aqaba, Irbid and Ma'an and that some of its housing projects have been completed and distributed to labourers covered by the SSC law. Dr. Farhan pointed out that the corporation will concentrate on housing for low income staff.

Dr. Farhan went on to say that so far 305,000 labourers and employees working in the public and private sectors are covered by insurance and that the SSC law is currently applicable to companies and institutions employing ten people or more. Expatriate Jordanians will also be given the opportunity to benefit from the SSC law, Dr. Farhan said.

Dr. Farhan said the SSC's tourist investments, Dr. Farhan explained that the SSC has bought the Amra, Aqaba and Petra hotels and 19 resthouses in various parts of Jordan with the aim of providing good, tourist services at reasonable prices.

Speaking about SSC investments in housing projects, Dr. Farhan said the SSC is currently applicable to companies and institutions employing ten people or more. Expatriate Jordanians will also be given the opportunity to benefit from the SSC law, Dr. Farhan said.

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## Jordan's good immunisation rate, low infant mortality could improve, UNICEF official says

Delegation from U.N. fund concludes official discussions on cooperation in mother, child health care programmes

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The immunisation rate against preventable diseases for Jordanian children under five years of age is approximately 80 per cent, of which 40 per cent of infants under one year of age are immunised and Jordan's infant mortality is in the region of 60 per thousand live births, according to a senior official from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Deputy Executive Director for External Relations Tarzie Vittachi, who concluded a three-day official visit to Jordan on Friday, said that the infant mortality rate in Jordan is one of the lowest in the Middle East. Dr. Vittachi attributed this to the highly-developed community, medical practices and widespread health system. However, Dr. Vittachi said that Jordan's health system is not being utilised to its full capacity and that it needs a comprehensive scheme in order to obtain even better results.

"What is needed is to inform people about the need for vaccination in the form of a widespread educational and information campaign. Jordan does not lack the political will as some countries do, all it lacks is social awareness," Dr. Vittachi told reporters at a press conference Thursday.

Dr. Vittachi, said his visit to Jordan, is designed to get first hand information about UNICEF activities and children's status in order to coordinate with the government of Jordan to identify priorities for projects to assist children.

Dr. Vittachi had earlier visited Syria for the same reason. Jordan and UNICEF are in the process of drawing up a programme to promote medical awareness against preventable diseases. The programme is expected to be put into effect in 1986 and will coincide with the next national five-year development plan. Through this programme, a joint effort is to be launched by UNICEF and Jordan in order to raise the immunisation rate to optimum levels within the next two years. Dr. Vittachi said. He pointed out that one of UNICEF's targets is to reach optimum immunisation rates in all countries by 1990.

## Talks with officials

During his visit to Jordan, Dr. Vittachi and the accompanying delegation met with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali and reviewed the forthcoming cooperative programme between UNICEF and Jordan. It is scheduled to be put into effect by 1986. Dr. Vittachi met also with senior officials at the Ministries of

Health, Information, Planning and Education to discuss bases for the forthcoming programme.

At the press conference, which was attended by UNICEF regional director for the Middle East and North Africa Office Victor Soler Salah, Dr. Vittachi said he was going to convey the outcome of his talks with Jordanian officials to UNICEF headquarters for assessment.

Dr. Vittachi pointed out that more than 15 million children in the world die each year due to lack of immunisation against six main diseases. Of this 15 million, nearly five million die from dehydration, three quarters of which is caused by diarrhoea.

Dr. Vittachi underlined that Oral Rehydration Therapy is a virtually 100 per cent effective cure for dehydration. The therapy is simply a mixture of salt and sugar dissolved in water. The solution, which can easily be prepared at home, was discovered 35 years ago but was not widely used until 1983.

Approximately five to six million deaths are caused by six killer diseases: diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, tuberculosis and polio, he said. These illnesses could be contained, since vaccines are largely available, Dr. Vittachi added. "We have the drugs, vaccines and the knowledge, and in many countries, the political will of the governments to fight these diseases," Dr. Vittachi said. He pointed out that many world countries have achieved good immunisation rates for children, ranging from 75 to 90 per cent and in China it is 95 per cent.

## Karak governor describes local hospital as 'below standard'

KARAK (Petra) — Karak Governor Salem Al Qudah Thursday visited the local government hospital and said later that its medical services are below standard. Mr. Qudah said that the hospital's present level of services to the local population are inadequate and that improvements have to be made.

No enlargement can be made to the present hospital to increase its occupancy rate because it is surrounded by buildings on all sides, Mr. Qudah said. He said that efforts should be made to build another modern hospital to meet the needs of the governorate and that it should be built on a plot of land no less than 250 dunams in area.

During his tour of the hospital's sections, Mr. Qudah familiarised himself with its various needs and was briefed by the staff on the shortages and areas requiring urgent improvement.

West Germany's Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Britain's Sir Geoffrey Howe both praised the atmosphere at their meetings and Mr. Shevardnadze's relaxed style.

## Jordan, Egypt to discuss joint holding company

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Egypt hope to establish a joint holding company before the end of this year to manage investments in both countries. Ministry of Industry and Trade Under Secretary Mohammad Al Saqqaf said here Friday.

Speaking to the Jordan Times shortly before he left for Cairo where he will hold talks on economic and trade affairs, Mr. Saqqaf said that the projected company was one of several joint ventures agreed upon by both countries during meetings of the Higher Joint Committee.

He said that over the coming days talks between the two sides

will focus on better means of promoting trade, removing obstacles impeding trade exchange, cooperation in agricultural fields as well as procedures for the establishment of the joint company.

Mr. Saqqaf is heading a team from the Ministries of Industry and Trade, Occupied Territories Affairs and Agriculture. The team also includes representatives from the Central Bank of Jordan, the Amman Chamber of Industry, the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, the Pension Fund, the Jordanian Trade Centres Corporation and the Social Security Corporation.

## Hamarnah opens cultural event

MADABA (Petra) — Under Secretary of the Ministry of Information Michael Hamarnah opened Thursday evening a week-long cultural event organised by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in

Madaba. On display are books on cultural, social and political subjects, paintings by local artists and antiquities. Also on display are traditional handicrafts, children's toys, sports equipment and indoor plants and flowers.

## Israelis close Al Najah

(Continued from page 1)

Abu 'Ein was freed May 20 with 1,150 mostly Arab prisoners who were swapped for three Israeli soldiers captured by Palestinian guerrillas in Lebanon. He was arrested again by military authorities on Wednesday.

An army statement said Abu 'Ein was plotting to hijack an Israeli bus. But according to a 1970 law governing what is called "administrative detentions," the army does not have to publish specific charges beyond citing that the detention is for "security reasons."

In accordance with army regulations, a military judge approved the order in a hearing in the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah, Israel Radio said.

There is no justice in Israel, Abu 'Ein told reporters as soldiers led him handcuffed out of the courtroom, the radio said.

The Jerusalem-based Al-Sha'ab Arabic daily did not appear Friday as a result of an Israeli order suspending the newspaper for three days from Thursday.

The newspaper's staff said Thursday they were informed of the suspension order by the Israeli authorities. The closure order came after the newspaper published a news item about the death of the two Palestinian youths whose bodies were found in a garbage dump near the occupied city of Nablus. The occupation authorities said the paper, by publishing the news item, violated Israeli censorship regulations.

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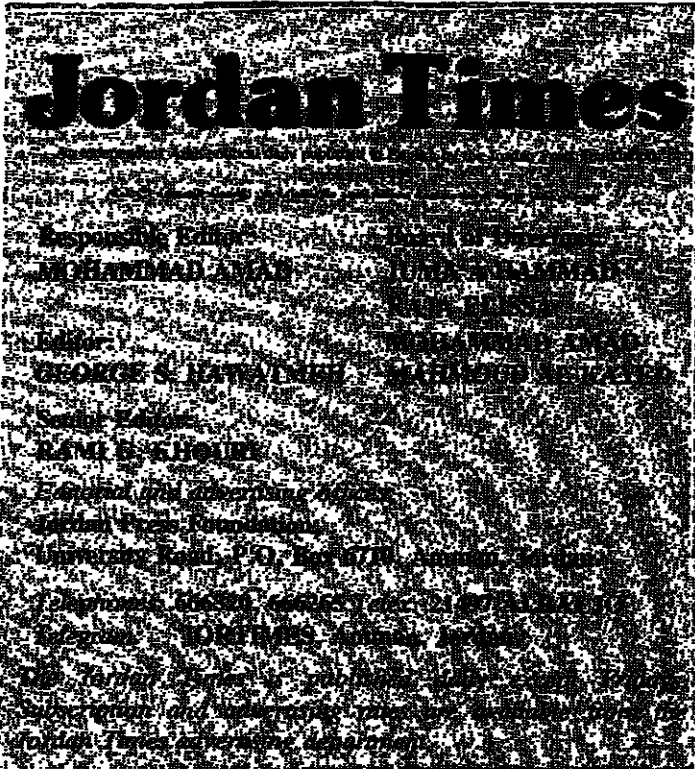
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## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

## Al Ra'i: Zionism reminds us of Nazism

THE ISRAELI occupation authorities, in pursuing their repressive measures against the Arab inhabitants of the occupied West Bank, have cut water and electricity supplies and telephone links in Nablus following the killing there of a Zionist terrorist. The new measure is part of inhuman campaigns against the local population and a plan to force the Arabs to abandon their homeland.

The new measures are reminiscent of Nazi practices against the occupied regions of Europe during the Second World War, as were described by the Israeli "Davar" newspaper. What goes on in Nablus and other parts of the occupied lands is more dangerous than anything else the Arabs have experienced in their dealing with the Zionist enemy, and therefore calls on the Arab countries to make urgent moves and rally the help of the international community to end those terrorist campaigns directed against our kinsmen in the West Bank.

Israeli Nazism has become a real danger not only threatening to swallow up our land but also to destroy cultural and human heritage and to starve innocent people in defiance of all international principles and laws.

## Al Dustour: Arming the Shi'ite, what for?

BY SUPPLYING the Lebanese Shi'ite militia with tanks and military equipment, Syria is thus encouraging its allies to pursue their drive to impose hegemony over the Lebanese factions. The Syrian declared move is not only directed against other groups in Lebanon but is clearly designed to increase the power of Shi'ite Amal movement to enable it to control the destiny of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

The Syrian tanks were passed on to the Shi'ites at a time when they still besiege the Palestinian camps in Beirut which they destroyed, killing innocent women and children, in the holy month of Ramadan. Not only did Syria give the Shi'ite tanks to fight the other factions and the Palestinians, but they also gave training to their fighters at Syrian military camps. The Syrian move came on the eve of the national reconciliation conference due to open in Lebanon with the aim of giving the Shi'ites the edge over the other factions.

As the news about the Syrian tanks broke out the leader of the Druze militia Walid Jumblatt announced that his men will support any Shi'ite attack on the Palestinians, an indication that another attack was imminent.

## Sawt Al Shaab: Summit to rebuild Arab solidarity

NOW THAT 17 Arab states have given approval to attend the summit meeting in Casablanca, and while preparation are underway, hopes are increasing every day that the Arab leaders are going to make real progress towards the rebuilding of Arab solidarity.

The Arab majority has expressed its determination to convene the summit reflecting the conviction of the Arab masses that the summit is a must in the present circumstances and in the light of all past developments in the Arab region. Those leaders wishing to take part in the summit meeting are keen on building Arab solidarity and strengthening Arab ranks. They believe in holding dialogues with one another in a bid to help serve the higher national interests.

Those leaders who shun the summit are stabbing the Arab Nation in the back and are trying to maintain divisions and disputes among Arab countries. Those rulers are only interested in safeguarding their own personal interests at the expense of the whole nation.

Thursday's

## Al Ra'i: Jordan reaffirms commitment to Iraq

KING HUSSEIN'S VISIT to Baghdad Wednesday was designed to emphasise the strong relationship between Jordan and Iraq and to ensure more cooperation between the two countries in the future. King Hussein of course went to consult with President Saddam Hussein about the coming summit meeting in Casablanca, but their meeting was also a manifestation of Jordan's firm stand in support of Iraq and its endeavours to defend the Arab Nation's soil against the Iranian aggression.

The consultations between the two leaders were essential in order to make the forthcoming summit a real success. Both leaders are very keen on safeguarding Arab interests and mobilising Arab resources as they both realise the true dimension of the challenges the Arab nation is now facing. Their views and their stands are very important for the summit and for other Arab heads of state because they are leaders of Arab states in direct confrontation with common enemies of the Arab Nation both on the eastern and the western flanks on the Arab World.

Supporting Iraq in its war against Iran lies at the top of Jordan's national policies. And relations between Iraq and Jordan are exemplary at a time when the Arab World is in real need for solidarity and cooperation. Let us hope that the two leaders' efforts at the summit will help it to achieve success.

## Al Dustour: Five-year plan reflects new realities

PRIME MINISTER Zaid Rifai's meeting with committees entrusted with drawing up the coming five-year national development plan reflects the government's determination to produce a plan that would truly serve the country's interests.

No doubt the government has realised that, in view of the world economic recession and its adverse effects on the Arab region and Jordan, the plan requires well thought studies and ample preparation. The time before embarking on projects over the coming five years. The plan will have to take into account many factors like the dwindling Arab financial aid to Jordan, the absorption of graduates and those expected to return from the Arab Gulf states as well as the involvement of highly skilled and efficient manpower.

The coming plan should take into account the fact that more reliance on domestic revenues is bound to entail a cut in imports of non-essential commodities. The plan as was clear from the committees' meeting at the University of Jordan would clearly involve cooperation on a wider scale between the private and public sectors.

## Fundamentalists or terrorists

By Shaker Abu Nasser

THE DEATH of Ziad Sati in Ankara reveals a certain escalation in Jordan's war with state-sponsored terrorism. It is the first time that Islamic Jihad claims responsibility for an assassination of a Jordanian diplomat. There has always been a confrontation between Abu Nidal group and pro-Libyan cohorts. It is assumed that Jordan's support for the Palestinians in Lebanon during their siege by Shi'ite Amal had led to an Amal grievance expressed in the hijacking and destruction of the Afla airliner and assassination of Jordanian diplomats. Islamic Jihad is just a manifestation of Iran's terror in the area. Its targets are not confined to Palestinians in Lebanon, or Jordanian diplomats, or Iraqi targets, but includes as well some Saudi and Kuwaiti targets.

After more than four years of threats to topple the royal monarchies of the Arab World, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini appears to have launched his campaign against Saudi Arabia with the May 18 terrorist bombings in Riyadh. According to government documents obtained from Tehran by Iranian exile organisations, Saudi Arabia is only one target on Khomeini's list, which reportedly includes Jordan, the Gulf States and the Western nations that have interests in the region.

According to the documents, which were smuggled out of Tehran in February, the Islamic Republic of Iran has organised a 2,000-man suicide brigade to "resort to any means necessary to demolish and destroy" what the report terms the "reactionary rulers" of the Arab World. One qualification for membership, according to the documents, is that a man "should not hold any value for his own life, and be ready to sacrifice and be willing to become a martyr." In other words, its members should not plan on coming back alive from their mission, but be a "Shaheed of Hussein".

The unit's members are drawn from the best Muslim trainees at Iran's 12 terrorist training camps, where Libyan, North Korean instructors have trained several thousand Shi'ite extremists recruited by Iranian diplomats in the ways of guerrilla warfare.

Ayatollah Ali Montazeri, Khomeini's designated heir, personally recruited some of these terrorists in 1982 as part of an organised Iranian propaganda campaign waged among the Muslim migrant workers in Western Europe. Iranian military attaches abroad have been charged with recruiting replacements for the unit, known as the "independent guerrilla warfare unit inside the enemy's territory".

The brigade is led by veteran revolution guards, Iranian commandos and members of the Iranian intelligence services.

The unit operates under the pseudonym of "Islamic Jihad," an umbrella organisation that also encompasses the pro-Iranian Shi'ite groups in Lebanon, such as the Islamic Amal and the Hizbollah, and the Iraqi Al-Dawa resistance movement and other Gulf area groups headquartered in and funded by Iran. Islamic Jihad had claimed responsibility for numerous bombings and assassinations in Lebanon, for attacks on Kuwait, and several airline hijackings. In most cases, an anonymous caller representing the organisation calls local news organisations to claim responsibility for the act.

After the explosion of two bombs in Riyadh on May 18, for example, in which one person died and three others were badly injured, a caller identifying himself as a member of Islamic Jihad claimed his organisation was responsible for the attack. The caller warned that "our cells acting in Saudi Arabia have started carrying out the operations assigned to them," and that the May 18 bombings were "but a minor specimen of a series of blows that we are planning in various Saudi towns and official dep-

artments."

Although the Iranian government has publicly distanced itself from Islamic Jihad in an effort to prevent retaliation on itself for the terrorist activities the group has carried out in Lebanon, Kuwait, and, now, Saudi Arabia, there is too much evidence that the "operations assigned" to these terrorists are planned in Tehran.

The leaders of Islamic Amal, the Hizbollah and other groups that have been trained and armed by Iran, for example, regularly visit Tehran to confer with officials of the Islamic Republic. In January, for example, the Hizbollahi leader, Sheikh Fadallah, met with Khomeini, Montazeri and other Iranian government leaders to plan further actions against Arab states whose leaders, in his words, "only claim to observe Islam." Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and the Gulf Emirates, along with Egypt and Sudan were counted among the heretic nations; only Syria, Iran's ally, was left off the list of potential targets for Shi'ite fundamentalists.

The January meeting brought together over 400 radical Shi'ite leaders from the Arab World, including many known terrorists. Fadallah and the leader of Islamic Amal, Hossein Mussawi, for example, are believed to have been responsible for the October 1982

and September 1984 mass bombings in Beirut that killed or injured nearly 400 people, and for most of the kidnappings of Western and Arab diplomats and journalists in Lebanon.

According to Iranian exile groups, these terrorist armies take their orders from Iran's ambassador to Syria, "Ali Akbar Mohtashemi," who in turn obeys Iran's Minister of Islamic Guidance, Seyed Mohammad Khatami. The Iranian Charge d'Affaires in Beirut, Mr. Nurai, and other Iranian diplomats act as a liaison with the terrorists, and supply them with money, propaganda materials and information they need for their operations. Under Iran's supervision, for example, the Hizbollahs have grown from a few hundred men in the Baalbek area in 1979 to over 5,000 armed supporters.

These groups and leaders do not try to hide their alliance with Iran. Sheikh Fadallah, for example, issued a manifesto last Feb. 16 claiming his intent to establish an Iranian-style Islamic republic in Lebanon, and a Hizbollah leader admitted last year that the organisation follows Khomeini, whom he called "our big chief."

"He gives the orders to our chiefs," the Lebanese terrorist commander added, "who give them to us."

The assassination of Ziad Sati on July 24, 1985, comes after several attempts on Jordanian diplomats:

1. Oct. 25, 1983. Ambassador Mohammad Ali Khorma survived an assassination attempt in New Delhi. Arab Revolutionary Brigades claimed responsibility.

2. Oct. 26, 1983. Ambassador Taysir Toukan survived an assassination attempt in Rome. The same Arab Revolutionary Brigades claimed responsibility as well as pro-Syrian Al-Nidal Front.

3. Nov. 7, 1983. The Arab Revolutionary Brigades assassinated in Athens one Jordanian security man and wounded another as part of their attempt at Jordan's embassy.

4. Dec. 29, 1983, the same Arab Revolutionary Brigades assassinated Walid Jamal Bulgar and wounded another, both of whom were working at the Jordan embassy in Madrid.

5. Nov. 29, 1984, the Jordanian Charge d'Affaires in Athens Minister Aasim Jutishat escaped an assassination attempt when the attacker's submachine gun got jammed.

6. Dec. 6, 1984, in Bucharest, Minister Azmi Almufti, Charge d'Affaires of Jordan's embassy there was assassinated.

The last two crimes were not claimed by any Arab front. Could it have been the same Islamic Jihad?

## Syrian construction team helps rebuild refugee camps

By William MacLean

BEIRUT — A Syrian construction team is helping Palestinian rebuild their lives in three war-ravaged Beirut camps amid a chaos of debris, disease and fear.

Crushed in bitter Amal-Palestinian fighting in May and June, the Bourj Al-Barajneh, Sabra and Shatila camps are slowly regaining a semblance of their former bustle.

More than 630 people were killed and about 2,500 wounded as Amal militia besieged the camps, home for at least 30,000, in a bid to prevent a resurgence of Palestinian armed power in Beirut.

"It was a stage, a period which has passed and which we believe will not come again," Osman Iskandar, a member of Bourj Al-Barajneh's People's Committee, told Reuters.

Seated in a maze of alleys that the militia could not enter, Mr. Iskandar said the camp was still "a little frightened because we have our women and children. But any fighting now is minor. We quickly stop it."

Since a Damascus-backed ceasefire in mid-June, 100 Syrian bulldozers have shifted a mass of rubble from the camps and aid workers have set up emergency water, medical and food supplies.

The U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine refugees plans to begin giving cash for rebuilding in August and start delivery of basic foods and thick clothes before winter.

At least 550 of some 3,000 families who escaped the siege are refusing to return to the worst-hit areas of Sabra and Shatila, many out of fear.

The two camps were tra-

nsformed into a wasteland of crushed breeze-block houses during the five-week siege. Tanks, artillery and rockets were used, often at point-blank range.

UNRWA Spokeswoman Wafa Tannir said first U.N. estimates showed that 85 per cent of houses in Sabra and Shatila and 40 per cent of those in Bourj Al-Barajneh were partially or totally destroyed.

Another official, who would not be named, said Palestinian fear of returning to Sabra and Shatila past Amal troops and militia checkpoints was the "biggest obstacle."

Inside the camps, refugees cling doggedly to battered homes. On Shatila's main street, 50-year-old Latife Hussein and her 11 children occupy the ruins of their ground floor apartment, which lost one wall and most of another in the siege.

Defying disease from dirt that blows in unobstructed and warnings that the building will collapse, Mrs. Hussein said she refused to leave and let the wreckage be demolished for fear she might never be allowed back once it is rebuilt.

"I will live in the corner of our room while they rebuild," she said. "Where else can I and my children go?"

Her attitude is typical of many refugees disoriented by the siege, said Syrian engineer Hamdi Tish, head of the 150-strong reconstruction team sent by Damascus.

In later stages of the siege, thousands of people were trapped in squalid basements, many of them without medical care.

Mr. Tish said his team had found 12 bodies in Sabra since early July. Police said 22 others,



## U.S. 'constructive engagement' on S. Africa displeases congress

By R. Gregory Nokes  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. policy of "constructive engagement," devised to foster peaceful change in South Africa, is foundering in a climate of violence and repression that is leading Congress to substitute its own policy of sanctions.

Secretary of State George P. Shultz has acknowledged that constructive engagement is "a very controversial policy," although the administration clings to it.

Pretoria clearly doesn't pay it heed as it resorts to extreme measures to maintain the system of apartheid that gives South Africa's white minority total domination over the nation's 22 million blacks. It has imposed a state of emergency at home and staged new cross-border raids into neighbouring black-ruled states.

The death toll from recent violence has risen to more than 500, most of them blacks killed by police and soldiers, but also some blacks slain by other blacks who suspected them of collaborating with the white government.

South Africa plotted a sabotage mission against a U.S.-owned oil refinery in Angola that failed only because the Angolans interrupted it.

Critics in Congress — now in the majority in both houses — say the policy of the administration of President Ronald Reagan has grown increasingly irrelevant.

"I think you have a revolution now taking place in South Africa," said Congressman Howard Wolpe, an opposition Democrat and the chairman of the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Africa. "There will be no turning back... the longer the revolution continues, the more violent it becomes."

Even some lawmakers who normally support the administration, such as Republican Senator Nancy Kassebaum, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Africa, worry that policy appears to favour the forces of apartheid.

In recent weeks, however, the administration has shown it is having second-thoughts about its

stand. It has withdrawn U.S. Ambassador Herman Nickel and issued progressively more critical statements. On Thursday, the White House for the first time said it was "re-evaluating the situation," although not the basic policy itself.

And on Friday, Spokesman Larry Speakes declared, "We want the state of emergency removed... Violence and repression will not solve the country's problems."

Constructive engagement was devised as a policy of persuasion — aimed at encouraging South Africa to relax its apartheid measures. It marked a reversal of the more confrontational stand of the administration of former President Jimmy Carter.

The policy also sought to create a climate for change by promoting peace between South Africa and its black-ruled neighbours.

But after 4½ years, none of the goals have been attained. Mr. Shultz claimed in a speech last week there has been a great deal of reform in South Africa, but critics say the changes haven't addressed the fundamental issue, which is that blacks are denied the right to vote or join in the government.

Congressman William Gray said last week the policy has amounted to little more than an excuse by the administration to look the other way when Pretoria committee abuses against its black population and neighbouring black-ruled states.

"It ignores completely the constant daily violence against 22 million blacks," said Mr. Gray, a key sponsor of House-approved economic sanctions against South Africa. "As long as the United States sends a signal at the regime doesn't have to pay a cost, it is pushing that day forward when there will be black violence against whites."

Administration criticism of the South African government was muted until recently. At a press conference on March 21, for example, Mr. Reagan defended South African police who killed 19 unarmed blacks gathering for a funeral march, referring to police as defending the "law and order side."

Constructive engagement appears to no longer have much meaning, and few in the administration seem to believe in it any longer, although they publicly support it.

It may have been more than just coincidence that Assistant Secretary of State Chester A. Crocker, the chief architect of the policy, was on vacation as the final threads fell away during the imposition of the state of emergency.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Nobel Peace Prize-winning black South African cleric, said on the White House lawn after a meeting with Mr. Reagan in December that the policy had worsened the plight of blacks.

The House of Representatives also favoured a ban on new investment and a prohibition against imports of South African gold coins as the house position received a psychological boost last week when France imposed its own South African investment freeze, for French firms.

The administration opposes the economic sanctions because it argues they would surrender the economic leverage that the United States has in South Africa.

Mr. Shultz and others say American companies have made great strides to improve the wages and working conditions of blacks, and predict a worsening of white repression if American influence is removed.

They also want to foster change that maintains South Africa's free enterprise and Western-oriented economy. There is great concern that Soviet-backed Marxists will pick up the pieces if chaos occurs.

But the United States is already South Africa's largest trading partner, and critics say the American economic involvement actually serves to prop up the white government and encourage it in its policies.

Mr. Gray charges that constructive engagement is helping bring about the very chaos the administration fears because the black population believes Washington is on the side of the white minority and therefore sees no hope but to resort to violence.

"The fact is South Africa is an open invitation to Communism," he said.

## Uganda after 23 years of independence

NAIROBI — These are the key facts about Uganda, where Kampala Radio Saturday announced there had been a bloodless coup against President Milton Obote.

Population: 14 million (1980 census). The largest tribe is the Baganda. In the north, of different origin, are the Acholi, the Lango and the Iteso.

Area: 236,860 square kilometres of which 39,459 square kilometres is water, made up of swamps and almost the entire northern half of Lake Victoria. Uganda is bounded in the north by Sudan, in the east by Kenya, in the south by Tanzania and the West by Zaire.

Capital: Kampala (pop 332,000). Other main towns are Jinja and Mbale.

Armed Forces: Army — 10,000, militia — 5,000 (estimate), para-military special force of about 1,000, no serviceable tanks. Navy — a small lake patrol.

Air Force: 500 airmen, an estimated 40 planes (precise figures unknown).

Economy: Coffee, tea, tobacco and cotton formed the backbone of a flourishing economy at independence that was shattered by mismanagement and war in the years under Idi Amin. GNP fell by 0.7 per cent between 1960 and

1980, according to the World Bank.

After Gen. Amin's overthrow in 1979 the government of Milton Obote set about repairing the damage with the help of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Western donors.

Coffee production immediately revived and tea, tobacco and cotton also started to pick up.

With IMF help the government set up a system of auctioning foreign exchange which has encouraged imports, soaked up liquidity and smashed black market dealing. This was part of a \$700 million recovery programme aimed at economic growth of 10 per cent a year.

Modern history: Uganda a British protectorate since 1894, became independent in 1962. Milton Obote was the first prime minister. Uganda was then a collection of tribal kingdoms and the king of the dominant Baganda people, Sir Edward Mutesa, was the first president.

Mr. Obote, who held socialist beliefs, favoured a unitary constitution and seized power in 1966. King Mutesa fled into exile and Uganda became a republic in 1967.

The man who helped Mr. Obote take power was a young army officer, Idi Amin Dada, who became army chief. Mr. Obote suspected

him of corruption and while on his way to a Commonwealth summit in 1971 was deposed by Gen. Amin and went into exile in Tanzania.

Gen. Amin's nearly nine years in power were among the darkest recorded in Africa. He expelled the thriving Asian community of 60,000 and terrorised the expatriate European Community.

His army henchmen tortured and killed tens of thousands of innocent people. Uganda's name became internationally synonymous with atrocities.

Provoked by an invasion of Tanzania by Amin's men, Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere assembled Uganda exiles and met from his own army and chased Amin into exile in 1979.

Mr. Obote came back after unsuccessful interim administrations, headed by Yusuf Lule and Lukongwa Binaisa, and in December 1980 led his Uganda Peoples' Congress (UPC) to victory in general elections.

Opposition parties said the elections were rigged and two guerrilla groups were formed to overthrow him. The guerrilla fighting and excesses by the ill-trained army continued to hamper Uganda's recovery from the Amin years.





## Talking straight

Marwan Muasher

# Beyond The New Arab Summit

THE FIRST thought that crossed my mind when I heard about the coming Arab summit was which one it is: The tenth? The fifteenth? The second thought was that I really did not care.

I lost track of how many Arab summits have been held since the first one in 1964. However, there are some which stand out in my mind, probably because of their impact on Arab politics.

The first one was that held in Khartoum, right after the 1967 war. The Arabs, confused and humiliated by their defeat, came up with their famous "3 No's": No recognition of Israel, no negotiations, no peace. Unfortunately, they did not come up with yeses to anything. With no proper follow-up and no serious intentions of unified action, the summit would probably go down in history as one of the weakest reactions to a major calamity.

The 1974 summit in Rabat was another important conference that it established the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. It did not do much beyond that, and instead threw a burden at the PLO — a burden that the organization was not fully prepared to handle. The Arab masses saw the decision then as a culmination of Palestinian efforts to be recognised on a worldwide scale. While this step certainly afforded the PLO wider recognition, many Arab governments seized the opportunity to relieve themselves of their responsibilities towards the Palestinians. Jordan at the time was left with a precarious position, and the PLO was not prepared to move diplomatically such that concrete results could be achieved.

The 1978 summit of Baghdad attempted to deal with the new political atmosphere created by President Sadat's

visit to Jerusalem. Again, the resolutions it adopted were more of a punishment to Egypt than a set of actions to try to create another political atmosphere more favourable to the Arabs. Today, few Arab states abide by the Baghdad resolutions.

The 1982 Fez summit was the first time Arabs actually came up with an alternative political strategy. There, a definite peace proposal was offered to the world, pointing out the conditions under which Arabs are prepared to make peace with Israel. Unfortunately, it was just that, a proposal, not a programme of action. The Arabs failed to provide for a mechanism by which this proposal can be practically implemented, believing instead that coming out with a proposal is tantamount to achieving their aims. The apparent unity that was exhibited in Fez was short-lived, however, and

since then no Arab summit has held.

In short, our experience with earlier Arab summits has not been a happy one. They were almost always held in reaction to events, as opposed to actions aimed at setting out policies and strategies. Most of them were ill-prepared, and came out with resolutions that could not have held given the mistrust and even outright hatred some Arab states have for each other.

It is not sarcastic, thus, to wonder why this summit should be any different. The general feeling is that whatever resolutions it will adopt will not be of any relevance.

Does it really matter if the Arab states adopt a resolution calling for peace in Lebanon? The Lebanese problem has been going on for 10 years now, and there is no indication that Arabs are willing to deal seriously with it.

More importantly for us, we have the right to ask if Arab approval or disapproval of the Jordanian-PLO accord is of any consequence.

It is a sad fact that we start doubting our abilities to work collectively as one Arab nation. But it is also a fact that the term itself is questionable. The idea of one Arab nation, for one reason or another, is a concept that exists only in our minds. Despite the fact that we have practically ruled it out by our actions, we continue to cling romantically to it in our dreams.

I do not disapprove of Arab summits. Consultations between nations are certainly useful. The various links that tie us up to other Arab states dictate that it be in our interest to hold such meetings. But I suggest we do not hold high hopes on this or any other Arab summit if the present political and social conditions in the Arab World

are not changed.

Jordan and the PLO have reached an agreement providing a mechanism by which peace can be achieved. If the Arabs at Casablanca are willing to back the accord by mobilising their forces to try to see it implemented, then the summit would have served a useful purpose. On the other hand, if, as I expect, they will pay lip service to it, then the summit would not be any different from all earlier ones.

In all frankness, if the Arab states fail to see the logic in this accord, I do not see why we, Jordanians and Palestinians alike, have to wait for them any longer. Provided that the Jordanian and Palestinian public agree to the accord, then Jordan and the PLO should find avenues by which this accord can be implemented. If our Arab brethren continue to act as bystanders on issues that hit

the core of our existence, then by all means we should bypass them. We cannot afford to keep clinging to ideas that, no matter how theoretically appealing, are just not working.

I suggest the Jordanian government, in cooperation with the PLO, hold a referendum to test people's reaction to the accord. This is the only way to give the accord the additional momentum it might need to show Arabs, the world, and ourselves what we really want. And then I suggest we seriously move to translate our ideas into concrete realities.

The feeling I have is that no major thing will change as a result of this new summit. This "extraordinary" session will probably prove very much ordinary. And I suspect few people will seriously follow the summit news or resolutions. It is probably wise to already start looking beyond it.

## Stark reminders of 1945 on Channel 6

By J.H. Boteler

BEFORE ANYTHING else, I really should recap on last night's special feature, "Murder in Space". At the time of writing it has not yet been screened but, unless some last minute disaster prevented it being shown, then you should all be frantically working out the various permutations of killers and victims. This programme came in too late to be included in last week's column, for which I am truly sorry, but I can explain a few of the ground rules. Made in the U.S.A., this is a television "whodunnit" with a difference or two. For a start, it is a competition, open to viewers around the world. (Each country that screens it runs their own competition). Viewers in Jordan have the chance to win a whole range of prizes, all of which have been kindly donated by ELBA. There are five grades of prizes and, in ascending order, these are: three fifth prizes of a ladies vanity/cosmetic travelling case; three fourth prizes, comprising of a matching set of three suitcases; five third prizes of a superb wooden door; (presumably plus fitting); five second prizes of double sliding "boudoir" doors; and one grand first prize of a fully-equipped mobile home! To win, all you have to do is work out who killed, and how they did it, last night's four victims: Olga Denereanko, Guy Sterling, Kurt Steiner, and Andrei Karsinov. Simple. Huh? So simple, in fact, that I'm not about to help you. (Apart from the fact that I haven't seen it yet, so am hardly in a position to help, I am also still waiting, fingers crossed, to see if my predictions about "Cover Her Face" are correct. Besides, I wouldn't mind a mobile home myself). Ah, ha, I hear you say, but I have inside information. Not so, for this is where last night's programme is again unique: only one person in the whole world knows the answers, and that is the scriptwriter. Furthermore, only when the American competition closes later this month will the script be taken out of a bank vault and subsequently filmed. So, it's every man for himself. All I can

assure you is that all the clues and information required were shown last night, and that this is purely an exercise in logic and deduction. Competition details will be forthcoming, and I hope to bring them to you when I know them.

Back, though, to the present, and tonight's programmes. "Vikings", as usual, at 8:30. I remember reading some years ago that two of the major contributors to the defeat of U.S. forces in the field in this war were an unknown, highly virulent strain of V.D., that was impervious to known cures and that spread like wildfire through the states on the troops' return. The second was drug addiction. Last week's programme gave graphic evidence of this last scourge. We saw the troops gleefully adopting rifle barrels to another form of lethal death; we saw street dealers going down at a fraction of the cost that they would back home; and there were the statistics. Five thousand servicemen wounded in action plus for the same period of time, twenty thousand drug casualties. Of these, we were told, eighty per cent were cured on their return to America. Or, to put it another way, four thousand G.I.s remained drug addicts. Which means that one had a marginally better chance-five to four-of being wounded than ending up a junkie. Certainly the wounded had a better chance of eventual recovery. A very grim thought indeed. Tonight's episode is entitled "Wanted Out, 1969-1971", and studied President Nixon's attempt to pull out the troops. Unfortunately at the same time he began the mass bombing of Cambodia, an action which fuelled public outrage all the more. Remember, this was one of the policies that won Henry Kissinger the Nobel Peace Prize. So it goes.

The feature film at 10:15 is a 1957 production of Ernest Hemingway's novel, "The Sun also Rises", starring Errol Flynn and Ava Gardner, plus Tyrone Power and Mel Ferrer. In Paris after World War I an impotent journalist meets a nymphomaniac

lady of tide, and they and their odd group of friends have various sordid adventures around Europe. It was produced by Darryl F. Zanuck. At this point it would be appropriate to hide JTV, (but only mildly), for hiding their light under a bushel. After months of James last and various ugly, unknown crooners and warblers, why weren't we told about the new-look, action-packed, vitamin-filled "Varieties" slot at 9:10? "Live Act", no less. Sixteen hours they've got which, allowing for the odd bit of editing here and there, should keep us rocking out happily for the next month or two. Last week was notable for its presentations of blues and soul. The Four Tops ripping through their allotted fifteen minutes without a break, and looking as fresh as they did in 1965; Bryan Ferry delivering a searing version of "Jealous Guy"; and Paul Young getting things cooking in his own inimitable fashion. And there's lots more to come. It does make a change to actually look forward to the 9:10 Saturday slot. Well done, JTV, we know you wouldn't let us down!

Tomorrow, (Sunday), has last week's "deferred" episode of "Knots" at 8:30; and "River, Runners" at 9:10. The Murray/Mustella's greatest river, flows from the Snowy Mountains to the sea. Russell Braddon, a London-based Australian writer, comes to terms with his native land as he follows the Murray from source to estuary, and a truly spectacular film results. Then, at 10:15, there is "Love Boat" and Part One of another double-header, this time in Japan. The extended format does lend itself to slightly more complex and developed scenarios than the usual fifty-minute episode, (but only slightly!). However, after last week, I'll never feel safe with this programme again. I mean, it used to be so cosy and happily predictable. Lovers met and got engaged; warring couples kissed and made up; estranged parents and children strode down the gangway arm-in-arm. Everything in short was hunky-dory. But not any more, not after last week. OK, so Greg made his choice and embarked on marital bliss;

the medicine-nut was saved by the Doc in the traditional operating theatre. All very fine and well. But when it came to Ursula Andress and her ex-on dream-boat, disaster struck. He gets carted off to jug and she is left to die in the passages of "A" Deck. Shock, horror, what is the world coming to? This week will probably see Gofar mangled by a propeller blade. (No bad thing either).

Monday has more emotional entanglements for Tony in "Who's the Boss?" at 8:30, and the concluding part of "Charles Eadell, Esq." at 9:10. Quite how rogue Charlie will get hold of his treacherous lawyer and his money, laid up as he is in a hospital bed, I am not certain, but no doubt all will end satisfactorily — if only in the sense of poetic justice being seen to be done. I rather doubt, though, that he will manage to ensnare the charming Kate Moncreiff. Apart from occasionally wishing that this programme provided English subtitles as well as Arabic ones, it has been a delightfully light-hearted romp, and I will remember it fondly. Which is not quite the word I'd use to describe "Widows", which also comes to an end on Monday, at 10:15. An excellent series, though, (and there's a second installment knocking around somewhere). So, the girls pulled the job off, but will they get away with it? Not only do they have the police and ex-inspector Resnick to cope with, but also the loving hubby, Eddie Rawlins. He is such a repulsive, two-timing specimen that it's hardly surprising that Dolly is showing her softer side. Two ultra-nasties would be too much, even in this programme. But it was a pity that her poodle had to get stomped for Dolly's sea-change to come about.

Tuesday has "Kate and Allie", (remember them?), at 8:30, proving that selling a house is even more of a drawn-out experience than Penelope Keith ever envisaged. At 10:15 there is a feature film, as yet undecided. At 9:10, you might be expecting the sixth and final part of "Cover Her Face" but if so, then you will have to wait for next week. The reason for the change is that Tuesday is

Aug. 6 and, as the phrase has it, "it was forty years ago today". On this day, in 1945, the first atomic bomb was dropped, and flattened the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Three days later it was the turn of "Fat Man", the quaintly named device dropped on Nagasaki. To commemorate — or perhaps it would be more apt to say remind us — of these events, JTV are screening two special programmes, on Tuesday at 9:10 and on Friday at the same time. Tuesday's programme is a BBC Horizon production, entitled "To Die, to Live — the Survivors of Hiroshima". The bomb that exploded that day amounts to the greatest single catastrophe man has ever inflicted upon man. But even from this clinical, impersonal mass-annihilation a great many people did survive — although burdened with guilt at being alive when their friends were dead, and threatened by the after-effects of radiation poisoning, from which people in the city are still dying today. Friday's offering is "Nagasaki — Return Journey". Two witnesses of the fireball return to the once-devastated city. One of them is the gaunt figure of Group Captain Cheshire, V.C., Britain's official observer on the bombing mission. The other is Geoffrey Sherring, a prisoner-of-war in the city who only survived because he had slipped into a bunker for an illicit smoke. The rights and wrongs about the bombs are legion. Some claim that the loss in Japanese lives was less than would have been the loss of American troops if a conventional invasion had taken place, and the bombs therefore justified. Others claim that Japan, blockaded by sea, was suffering virtual starvation and on the point of surrender. Then again, Mr. Sherring firmly believes that if the bombs had not been dropped, he, and the other P.O.W.s, would have been summarily executed by their gaolers just prior to either defeat or surrender. Some claim that the Nagasaki bomb was not necessary, and was only dropped to enable scientists to study further the effects of a nuclear blast. I wouldn't know, and it is not for me to say.

However, what is certain are the current figures: the combined nuclear arsenals of America and the USSR possess six thousand times the explosive force of all the bombs dropped by all sides throughout the World War II. So, as we watch the grim realities of body shadows etched into walls, of fields smouldering for days, of children's backs stripped of up to five layers of skin, as we see the images composed of modern-day colour film and original, grimy, black-and-white newsreels, let us all fervently pray to God that they are also watching in Washington and Moscow.

In "Three's Company" (Wednesday, 8:30), Jack and Janet continue to get the wrong idea about Terry's doctor friends, while at 9:10 John Barton continues to infuriate in his uncanny manner in "Playing Shakespeare". This week may see the screening of the "lost episode" about soliloquies and if so, all I ask is that we are allowed to watch and listen to a few great speeches without them being interrupted ad nauseam, and repeated time and time again. The bearded wonder rose to new heights of idiocy last week. First off he made the astounding claim that irony can not be written. (Huh? Ever heard of Jane Austen; E.M. Forster?). He then went on to discuss all the irony that Shakespeare had written. (Of course, the Great Will could do anything). We got one speech four times. First rendering was without using any stresses or emphasis at all. The second was using only strong stresses. Honestly, you might just as well read the speech backwards for all the good or use these pointless exercises provide. A careful study of the text is rewarding and informative, but one should never forget that the words belong primarily in the whole context of the play, and its action, along with the trappings of costumes and scenery. A round of applause to Ben Kingsley last week who, having been congratulated by Mr. Barton after only one go at a speech, replied smilingly: "I'm so relieved". That's a bit of instant irony for you. At 10:15, more from "Jesse".

Thursday at 8:30 sees the last



"To die, to love — the survivors of Hiroshima" Channel 6 Tuesday and Friday at 9:10

episode of "No Place Like Home", and smiles all round as the assorted brats are packed off for good; or are they? "Flader of Lost Loves", (9:10), has Cary and Daisy on the trail of an amnesiac and an ungrateful pop-star, and at 10:15 there's more horror and suspense from "Fox's Mystery Theatre", and an episode entitled "Black Carriage".

Friday has "Charles in Charge" delighting us again at 8:30, and further high jinks from "MacGruder and Lord" at 10:15. "Teenko", of course, is absent owing to the Nagasaki special which, in the circumstances, is perhaps no bad thing. However this is perhaps the place to point out that both atomic specials are a full-hour long and so might at the last moment be rescheduled to come after the news, in a slot rather more suited to their running time. If so, then "Teenko" will be

shown on Friday, and "Cover Her Face" on Tuesday, both at 9:10. About this last, (and I must admit that I'd suggest anything to get a chance to drag in this programme), nothing that happened last week made me change my mind about Felix. Indeed, I'm more convinced than ever. The Cyprus troubles of the early 1960's have come into the reckoning, and what better theatre for the military killing machine to learn his trade and also strike up an acquaintance with the Cypriot drug mafia? Also, he is hardly the man to let a little thing like love to stand in the way of his attempting to throttle Deborah. Finally, Sally Jupp was heard to be talking about marriage on the Thursday before Stephen's proposal. Who invited himself down to the happy house that Thursday? Felix. I rest my case. (With my neck sticking out a mile).

## Original Malaysians still live in the jungle

By Robert Mahoney

FORT TELANOK, Malaysia — Once a month tinned sardines and school books fall from the sky over this village in the jungle-clad highlands of the Malay Peninsula.

The shouts of the excited children who rush to greet the twirling red parachutes are not understood by the Malay teacher standing by the school hut. His pupils are Semais, one of the three aboriginal peoples of peninsular Malaysia.

They look different, speak a different language and follow a different religion from the Islamic Malays who gave the country its name. They are also the poorest and technologically most backward of Malaysia's 15 million people.

The 20th century has been slow in penetrating the rain forest, where many aborigines still live. Government aid drops are the main source of essential supplies to this ancient community which also survives by hunting, gathering wild fruits and planting dry hill rice.

Little is known of the history of the 70,000 aborigines who are divided into some 20 ethnic sub-groups scattered along the mountain backbone of the peninsula which runs from Singapore north to Thailand.

Their languages belong to a group which includes Khmer

(Kampuchean) and the Mon language of Burma.

Some of them have negroid features and curly black hair. Some scholars believe they are related to the aboriginal tribes which once swept through the region to Australia but no link has yet been proved.

For centuries many Malays regarded the pagan aborigines as cultural inferiors. Malay slave raids on Semai settlements did not end until this century.

Attitudes have now changed, says Jimin Idris, deputy director of the Department of Aborigine Affairs.

But the shy, unwarlike aborigines are still very much the poor relations of the country's later settlers — Malays, Chinese and Indians. One reason is their isolation as many still prefer the forest to the towns.

I joined a field unit from the Aborigine Affairs Department on a five-day trek through the jungle to visit settlements in the northeast state of Pahang. The only access to some villages was along trails bulldozed through the thick secondary undergrowth by wild elephants.

Streams and riverbeds are also highways for aborigines who may walk for days to take fruit or rattan cane to the edge of the forest for sale.

The money pays for extras — radios, wristwatches or food to supplement the staple diet of rice, tapioca, fish and fruit.

What the aborigines cannot grow or hunt the department supplies with the aidrops, says Mr. Jimin. It also provides primary schooling in the Malay language for some youngsters and basic health care.

"Development is still at a snail's pace," said one department worker. "Malaysia is rich but these original 'Bumiputras' (sons of the soil) do not get their fair share."

Educational standards are below the national average. Infant mortality is high. Diseases like malaria and tuberculosis are frequent killers.

The aborigines lack political clout. "Politicians are all words," said headman Sileh Ganchor. "We get nothing from them. Everything comes from the Aborigine Department."

The department, set up in the 1950s to prevent Communist guerrillas using aborigine villages for sanctuary and supplies, governs all aspects of the aborigines' lives.

Critics call it paternalistic and accuse it of fostering a hand-out mentality. But Mr. Jimin said: "We have to work somewhere between the extremes of benign neglect and dragging the aborigines kicking and screaming into the 20th century."

"They are neither a political, social or cultural threat to the Malays. They could be left alone... but we feel bound to help them." One reason they were not left alone was security. When the

Communist insurgency began in 1948 the British, who then ruled Malaysia, herded the aborigines into camps and many died.

The policy of resettlement continues. The state is trying to attract whole villages to new sites with access to roads.

Nomads who once hunted with blowpipes are given land and encouraged to grow rubber and other cash crops. Officials say it is still too early to know whether the scheme will succeed.

"Cultural obstacles... have to be overcome like the custom of burning the house when someone dies," said one official.

Parents are also very tolerant towards children and never force a child to do anything against his will. "If a child does not want to go to school he does not go," the official said.

The aborigines also have to learn basic skills. They are masters of jungle craft but they have no tradition of metal-working, carving or weaving.

Their language and history are not written down but passed on by word of mouth. It remains to be seen whether such a culture can survive being transplanted into the 1980s.

But headman Sileh is determined to see resettlement succeed. "I am sad about moving but we have to better ourselves. People now expect more than their parents did. We will remain aborigines though."

## 'Defections' threaten British Jewry

From the Economist

BRITAIN'S JEWS are afraid they might be disappearing. The board of deputies of British Jews bemoans the community's latest vital statistics. There have been "massive defections among young people" and the "commonly held view that there has been a religious revival in recent years in Anglo-Jewry is incorrect". Thus reports the board's statistical unit.

Among Britain's 337,000 Jews — a working estimate — there were only 1,153 synagogue marriages in 1984: the second lowest total this century. In the same year, religious burials and cremations were up 5 per cent to 4,945. This suggests a crude death rate of 15 per thousand, compared with 11.8 for the general population. As if deserting the faith and dying were not enough, increasing numbers of Jews are leaving Britain. There are 13,000 British-born Jews in Israel, and almost as many in Canada. In all, the latest analysis says that in 1971 more than 44,000 British-born Jews — equivalent to 12 per cent of Anglo-Jewry — lives abroad.

American Jews regard themselves as an ethnic group, France's Jews as a cultural unit, but British Jews see themselves as a religious group or nothing. So the demise of religious marriage is especially worrying. Nearly 80 per cent of British Jews are members of a synagogue. This rate — twice as high as in America, three times

higher than in France — is the highest in the world (bar Israel, which is different since affiliation is not required for a religious wedding or burial there). The sharp decline in synagogue marriages seems to have started in the mid-seventies — a full 10 years later than the decline in religious marriages for all denominations, which went down to 177,000 in 1982 from 244,000 in 1962. For Britain's Jews, the secularising 1960s seem to have come a decade late.

Why? Hands are raised in a gesture of resigned unknowing. Perhaps Jews, a mobile, urban, bourgeois group, were more affected by economic recession in the 1970s and put off marriage. Perhaps more Jewish students (about one in every 22 Jews is a student) meant more fraternisation with gentiles and more intermarriage. One consolation: it could have been worse. Synagogues, unlike Catholic and most Anglican churches, are ready to marry divorced people.

Nobody knows how much intermarriage is going on. As in America in the 1970s, the Jewish community knows there is a lot of it about but is wary of investigating. In America's Jewish population of 5.7m, 40 per cent of wedding are to non-Jews. This rate, which has been climbing very steeply, is perhaps more a result of the women's movement than of anything else. Jewish women started marrying non-Jews, having

previously left that sort of thing to their brothers. A forthcoming book on Jewish intermarriage by Professor Egon Mayer of Brooklyn College argues that American Jewish families have learned to live with intermarriage, whereas synagogues and communal organisations have not. American synagogues, though, are confronting the problem. More of them are organising Jewish dating agencies and singles' groups. So far, Anglo-Jewry, on the whole, would rather not know.

In America, conversion (almost

always the result of intermarriage) brings in between 12,000 and 15,000 new Jews a year — a threefold increase in the last 30 years. Not bad for a religion that does not proselytise. In Britain, there are fewer than 100 conversions a year. This is because three quarters of British Jews are orthodox, while at most 15 per cent American Jews are. Most American conversions take place in progressive congregations. These conversions are not recognised by the orthodox — who haven't much interest in converts anyway.



Looking for a nice Jewish girl



## England leads 4th test against Australia

MANCHESTER, England (R) — England survived some anxious moments and batted with solid, if unspectacular, success to take charge on the rain-hit second day of the fourth cricket test against Australia Friday.

At the close, helped by two dropped catches, England were 233 for three in reply to Australia's first innings total of 257, 24 runs behind.

Mike Gatting, batting with his customary power on the leg side, was unbeaten on 45 and Allan Lamb, seeking a big score after moderate successes so far in the Ashes series, was 38 not out.

Gatting and Lamb came together early in the final session soon after the end of a 121-run partnership between England's opening batsman Graham Gooch and captain David Gower.

Gooch was trapped leg before for 74 by paceman Craig McDermott — Australia's most successful bowler with all three England wickets — and Gower, after a fitful innings which mixed stylish strokes with mistimed errors, was brilliantly caught by Andrew Hilditch on the long leg boundary for 47.

Earlier, 20-year-old Mc-

Dermott had removed Tim Robinson for 10. The England opener was caught at second slip by Australian captain Allan Border.

If all the Australian fielders — in particular David Boon — been as secure in their handling as their captain, Australia might have ended the day enjoying a stronger position.

Boon, Australia's first innings top scorer with 61, was presented with two reasonable catches at first slip, but dropped them both.

The first came after 40 minutes of the morning session had been lost to rain and when Gower had made only four. The England captain edged a ball from McDermott, who has had him caught behind four times during the series, fast to Boon's left.

Boon reached two hands to the ball, but escaped his clutches and Gower took two runs to assist him in boosting his confidence after a distinctly edgy start at the crease.

## Fabi sets fastest time in practice for West German Grand Prix

NUERBURGRING, West Germany (R) — Unheralded Italian Teo Fabi upstaged the world championship establishment Friday by setting fastest time in opening practice for Sunday's West German Grand Prix.

Fabi left illustrious rivals like championship leader Michele Alboreto of Italy and Frenchman Alain Prost trailing and rewarded his once-troubled Toleman team for their perseverance.

The gritty Italian's pace-setting time of one minute 17.429 seconds on the revamped Nuerburgring circuit was his best effort in a four-season Grand Prix career and Toleman's finest showing since they entered the world championship in 1981.

The British-based team did not even appear in this season's series until Monaco. A tyre supply problem left them absent and extremely worried about their future for the first three races.

Prost, a heavy favourite for a repeat win on Sunday, was third quickest in his McLaren behind the Ferrari of Sweden's Stefan Johansson.

Johansson was more than a second behind Fabi in 1:18.616 while Prost, already a winner three times this season as he bids for the elusive crown, recorded 1:18.725.

Alboreto, currently two points ahead of Prost in the standings, had to settle for eighth place but is expected to improve in Saturday's final session.

Fabi, who took pole position for the 1983 Indianapolis 500, said: "It was a perfect lap for me, the car is very good. We hope to fit an even better engine tomorrow — but I hope it rains."

Delighted team boss Alex

Hawthorne said the car's chassis was ideally suited to Nuerburgring. "It is not a power circuit, we can hold our own here," he added.

Former world champions Keke Rosberg of Finland and Nelson Piquet of Brazil, fourth and sixth fastest respectively, also aim to knock Fabi from his perch on Saturday.

"It was a very frustrating session for us," said Piquet whose Brabham race car suffered a throttle problem and his spare developed turbo trouble.

## Becker beats Teltscher in Davis Cup quarterfinals

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Wimbledon champion Boris Becker powered his way to an easy win over American Eliot Teltscher in the opening singles of the Davis Cup world group tennis quarter-final here Friday.

Becker, 17, met with little resistance as he beat Teltscher 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 in one hour 53 minutes to put West Germany 1-0 ahead.

Though playing on a slow clay court not tailored to his hard-hitting style Becker proved far too strong for the American, who normally favours clay, Teltscher made too many unforced errors.

particularly on his backhand, to put himself in with a chance.

"I thought it would be tougher," Becker said. "I didn't expect to win in less than four sets. I was pleased I only had to play three though I felt strong enough to go five if necessary."

The West German, number nine in the world, was playing for the first time on home soil since his sensational Wimbledon triumph and, though he was never extended, he gave the crowd plenty to cheer.

"He hits the ball hard — he's a

good player," Teltscher acknowledged. "I made a lot of errors and there's not much you can do if you're not playing well."

Becker reeled off the first four games in each of the first two sets. The third set went with service to 3-3 before Teltscher was broken.

A disputed line call gave Becker a break point in that game and Teltscher, who argued with the umpire, seemed to go to pieces afterwards.

In the second singles Aaron Krickstein of the U.S. faces Hans-Joerg Schwaier.

## IOC denies Soviet confirmation on attending Seoul Olympics

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has received no official confirmation from Moscow that the Soviet Union will participate in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, an IOC official said Friday.

The official was responding to a report Friday by the Japanese Kyodo News Agency which quoted a Soviet official as saying Moscow had already informed the IOC of its participation in the 1988 games.

National Olympic committees were expected to confirm their participation to the IOC only two months before the games started, the IOC official said.

There has been concern that the Soviet Union, which led a 15-nation boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, might stay away from Seoul because it was unhappy with the venue.

South Korea, a close ally of the United States, has no diplomatic ties with Communist countries. Both North and South Korea

have, however, agreed to send officials to IOC headquarters here later this year to discuss the idea of a joint Korean Olympic team.

## British champion to retire

GOODWOOD, England (R) — Former British champion jockey Joe Mercer is to retire at the end of the season.

Mercer, who will be 51 in October, made the announcement in between races at Goodwood Friday.

His decision means that British racing will be without two of its most familiar figures next year. Earlier this year Lester Piggott announced he would be retiring from the saddle at the end of the season to take up training.

Mercer said: "I've decided to call it a day because I've got a lot of mileage on the clock and age is beginning to creep up on me."

He will continue to ride work next season but will also act as adviser to Australian jockey Brent Thomson, who will be riding as first jockey to lambourn trainer Barry Hills next year.

## Roma president decides to quit

ROME (R) — The dispute between Italian first division soccer club Roma and Brazilian midfielder star Paulo Roberto Falcão was given a new twist Friday when Dino Viola, president of Roma, resigned.

The announcement came only one day after Italian soccer officials had ruled in favour of the club in its contractual dispute with the player.

Viola, 70, a Christian Democratic member of the Senate, made his surprise announcement at a news conference at a Rome hotel.

In a prepared statement, he said Thursday's decision in Roma's favour did not diminish the sense of bitterness the whole affair had caused in Italian soccer and he decried the "wild publicity" the case had received.

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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies, and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.3630/50	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3530/35	Canadian dollars
	2.8320/40	West German marks
	3.1790/810	Dutch guilders
	2.3190/210	Swiss francs
	57.20/27	Belgian francs
	8.6375/475	French francs
	1898.50/1900.50	Italian lire
	237.50/65	Japanese yen
	8.3750/850	Swedish crowns
	8.3100/200	Norwegian crowns
	10.1950/2050	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	319.50/320.00	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed easier on light profit taking after Thursday's sharp gains. Dealers said. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 4.7 at 1,282.5.

Debenhams was 10p higher at 328. House of Fraser said it had increased its stake in the company to 24.97 per cent and Burton said it had increased its stake to 14.99 per cent. Via market purchases. Burton's offer for Debenhams closed at 1400 GMT Friday but is extendable until Sunday. Burton rose 16p to 470.

Government bonds eased around 3/4 point on weaker sterling and firmer U.K. money market interest rates. Golds were easier while North Americans were mixed to firmer.

In hanks Lloyds ended 7p off at 392 after interim results broadly in line with expectations. Switching out of Nat West into Barclays pushed the latter up 15p to a high of 409 but the shares later moved to 399 on profit-taking. Dealers said. Nat West ended 17p off at 637. Insurances were easier.

British Aerospace firmed 19p to 350, having earlier touched 360 and its three part shares gained 11p to 176 after 186, following news of a three nation agreement, which includes Britain, to build a new European fighter aircraft. Dowry group and Ferranti also rose on the news. Dowry added 13p to 190 and Ferranti 4p to 128.

YOUR DAILY  
Horoscope  
from the Carroll Righter Institute

## FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Despite some upsetting conditions early in the day, you will find that you can see some imaginative vision on how to put your plans into effect with more efficiency.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Don't permit a private worry to depress you in the morning, and later you can come to a better understanding with your mate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid a new contact who can be troublesome in the morning, and later you have fine rapport with a business partner.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Avoid the public in the morning and later plan your work for the days ahead wisely so that you can expand.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Stick to plans made and don't go off on any tangents, and later you can have a wonderful time, especially at amusements.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Don't argue over some bill in the morning, and then you can handle home affairs more wisely.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be very careful in motion in the morning, and after lunch you can see good friends and enjoy hobbies together.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get your environment more as you prefer it to be in the morning, then study financial affairs that are important.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Carry through with duties ahead of you and don't use time foolishly. The evening can be very pleasurable for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't get flustered if conditions are not as you want them to be at your home, and later you can have fun.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't make cutting remarks in the morning, and later you can enjoy the company of good friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Early be careful in spending money and then you can accomplish a good deal in the business world.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You may feel discontented in the morning but can soon go out and get into interesting outlets and you can become happy.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she should have a practical kind of education in order to be stable and not go off on imaginative tangents. The life will become successful by combining the standard with the inventive. Be understanding and give only mild discipline.

## THE Daily Crossword by Mary Coo Whitten

ACROSS

- 1 Loud sound
- 5 Wynton Hugh-
- 10 Polite
- 14 Table spread
- 15 Moslem scholars
- 16 Nothing
- 17 London area
- 18 Jazz dance
- 19 "A - clock school"
- 20 Hound
- 22 Alps singer
- 24 District
- 27 Resinous substance
- 28 "Sing a song of"
- 31 Phony
- 35 Nobellet
- 36 Egyptian god
- 38 young
- 39 Andy Gump's wife
- 40 Brennan and
- 41 Heckart
- 42 Travel stop
- 43 ... was saying
- 44 Hecsey town
- 45 Indian
- 46 After
- 48 Hair pluckers
- 51 Guide's note
- 52 Ancient port
- 53 Small guitar
- 57 Open in a way
- 62 Hurdled
- 63 Thought
- 64 Choir voice
- 67 Kinschase's
- 68
- 69 Actress
- 70 Patricia
- 71 Light gas
- 72 Cato, park
- 73 Caravanist
- 74 Peter

DOWN

- 1 Fast car
- 2 Broadway
- 3 Emblem of Athens
- 4 Rather's forte
- 5 Like a yenta
- 6 Tex. city
- 7 Final abbr.
- 8 Yacht
- 9 TV award
- 10 Bonaparte
- 11 Mex. Indians
- 12 Shoe part
- 13 Sea bird
- 14 Park the boat
- 15 Dutch commune
- 16 Mends
- 17 Fla. town
- 18 Keopapara
- 19 Poison shrub
- 20 Gaelic
- 21 Ohio town
- 22 Biting
- 23 Photo lab solution
- 24 Arnes
- 25 Cat sounds
- 26 Ship's neck
- 27 Admirer's
- 28 Room, VIP
- 29 Wrestling hold
- 30 Practice
- 31 Star article
- 32 Star
- 33 Vegetable
- 34 Date
- 35 Historic times
- 36 Capuch river
- 37 Thin
- 38 Fr. composer
- 39 -- and caboodle
- 40 Prior

## Austrian wine scandal broadens to juice, sekt

VIENNA (R) — Sparkling wine and grape juice have been implicated in Austria's wine-doctoring scandal, but a top official said Thursday juices for export were not affected.

Police arrested six more wine-makers and merchants in the two most affected provinces, Burgenland and Lower Austria. Those held included a West German and an Italian. This brought the total number of detentions to 28.

The health ministry stepped up its search for drinks laced with diethylene-glycol, which can cause kidney and brain damage.

It gave top priority to a nationwide check of fruit juices after the discovery of a contaminated carton of fruit juice in a supermarket south of Vienna.

Graz researchers have also found traces of glycol in Sekt, sparkling white wine, putting Sekt on the black list for the first time.

More than 230 contaminated wines have been found as the authorities try to control a scandal that has halted wine exports, severely damaged the country's image abroad and threatened the livelihood of thousands of small vintners.

Mr. George Lindner, a ministry toxicologist said juices were being checked urgently as they were drunk by children and sick people, who were most susceptible to position.

Mr. Hans Pfanner, president of the Fruit Juice Industry Federation, told Reuters the one contaminated grape juice found so far was manufactured by a firm which did not export.

"All other fruit juices checked have been shown to be pure. We distance ourselves from the case, which was clearly an exception," he said.

## Middle East market

Austria has built up a big export trade in fruit and vegetable juices and concentrates, particularly to the Middle East.

## Number of unemployed Britons rises to 3.24 m

LONDON (R) — The number of Britons out of work rose by 56,500 in July to 3.24 million, official figures showed Thursday, dampening government hopes of a mid-summer improvement to ease political pressure over economic policy.

The overall jobless total, which excludes school leavers who cannot yet claim state unemployment benefit, stands at 13.4 per cent of the workforce compared with 13.1 per cent in June.

But the government said it was encouraged by the seasonally adjusted adult unemployment figures, said to be a better guide for underlying trends, which rose by 6,500 to 3.18 million, compared with a drop of 8,100 in June.

"For the last 18 months, despite a much better economic performance, the trend of unemployment has remained firmly upward by 10,000 and 15,000 a month," Employment Secretary Tom King said. "The figures for

the last three months suggest there may now be a significant change in that trend."

Meanwhile, Britain's state-controlled electricity industry said Thursday it lost \$1.72 billion (\$2.4 billion) as a result of the coalminers' strike which ended in March.

The joint reports by the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) and the electricity council said the dispute cost the industry £2.02 billion (\$2.8 billion), wiping out a potential net profit of £300 million (\$420 million) for the year ending March 1985.

In the past two weeks British Steel, British Rail and the National Coal Board have all blamed annual losses on the strike.

With claimed annual losses added to the price of the often violent dispute, the overall cost of the strike now looks set to reach £6 billion (\$8.4 billion).

## U.S. Congress passes 1986 budget

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Congress Thursday night passed a 1986 budget slashing deficits by \$55.5 billion despite complaints from both parties that high military and domestic spending levels still threatened the economy.

The budget bill, which would cut deficits by \$226 billion over three years, was approved after a six-month struggle between President Reagan's Republican Party and opposition Democrats and between both parties and the White House.

Despite liberal complaints that the budget continued Mr. Reagan's huge military buildup, the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives passed it on a 309 to 119 vote.

The Republican-led Senate approved it later on a 67 to 32 vote after arguing that spending cuts on social programmes did not go far enough.

Mr. Reagan also complained the cuts were not deep enough and said he would work to cut spending further in individual appropriations bills Congress must now approve to carry out its new budget.

"I plan to examine each and every upcoming appropriations bill line by line, and if it is excessive, out of line or in any way jeopardizes our national security, I will not hesitate to use my veto pen," Mr. Reagan said in a statement.

Before Senate passage, Senate Republican leader Mr. Bob Dole told the Senate Mr. Reagan indicated he supported the bill as "a step in the right direction."

Congressional negotiators, who cleared the budget for passage, said deficits will be cut sharply.

But the independent Congressional Budget Office attacked the proposed \$55.5 billion in deficit cuts next year and \$226 billion over three years as overstated.

Senate Republicans, still bitter that President Reagan rejected their sweeping deficit reduction

plan of oil import taxes and social security benefit delays on Monday, said they supported this budget as "better than nothing."

It proposes spending \$967.6 billion against \$795.7 billion in revenues next year for a \$171.9 billion deficit.

Mr. Reagan does not have to sign this budget that will guide spending levels for the 12 government months starting Oct. 1.

Mr. Reagan and Congress have struggled for six months to get a budget since his own plan was rejected soundly after it was submitted to Congress last February.

Since then Congress has battled internally and with Mr. Reagan to draft a document that cuts deficits seen as far exceeding \$200 billion for years to come.

This plan would fall short of the original goal of cutting the 1988 budget deficit below \$100 billion.

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office said the deficits would be higher than the optimistic projections in the final budget, a patchwork of earlier budgets that passed House and Senate.

There are no major new taxes in the plan, although about \$8 billion in tax revenue is being sought, with suggested increased coming from requiring state workers to pay into social security health trust funds.

Although levels of defence spending dominated the budget debate earlier this year, the issue faded in the last few weeks as both House and Senate negotiators agreed on a high defence budget ceiling of \$302.5 billion in 1986.

Actual defence spending, negotiators said, would come in at about \$35 billion under that ceiling.

In all, they figured that they

reduced defence spending by \$27.5 billion from projected military levels in 1986.

## State Department expresses worry over aid cuts

Meanwhile, the State Department Thursday said it was pleased Congress had managed to pass a foreign aid bill for the first time in four years but expressed concern over cuts it made in administration proposals.

"These reductions could seriously constrain the ability of the administration to serve effectively U.S. national interests," spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

He said the \$12.7 billion bill would cut nearly \$500 million from the administration's requested aid and almost \$700 million from the amount it asked for in military assistance.

Mr. Redman gave no breakdown of the countries likely to receive less than the administration wanted to provide as a result of the final bill.

"We are pleased that for the first time in four years the authorisation process has produced a foreign assistance bill acceptable to both houses of Congress," Mr. Redman said.

He said a number of its provisions would "substantially increase the flexibility of the president to conduct U.S. foreign policy and further national security interests."

The bill opens the way to new or revived U.S. involvement in Nicaragua, Kampuchea and Angola.

It includes \$27 million for U.S.-backed "Contra" rebels fighting the leftist government in Nicaragua, although the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is barred from administering the funds.

The bill also includes an unprecedented \$5 million for non-communist guerrillas fighting the Vietnamese-backed government in Kampuchea. State Department

officials say they have no plans for using the money for military help.

Mr. Redman welcomed the bill's repeal of a measure forbidding assistance to military operations in Angola, where South African-backed non-communist forces are fighting the Marxist government.

He said the administration had opposed the measure as a point of principle.

"We welcome the lifting of this counterproductive restriction," he added.

Despite concern over the cuts, President Reagan is expected to sign the bill into law.

Democrat David Obey of Wisconsin, chairman of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, defended the spending levels, saying cuts were needed to reduce the \$220 billion federal deficit.

## Aid to Jordan may be affected

Mr. Redman gave no breakdown of the countries likely to have their aid cut, but Republican committee members said Jordan, Korea, Thailand, Morocco, Oman, Tunisia, Indonesia and 11 African countries would be among those affected.

The committee's biggest cut in the appropriations bill was \$756.9 million, or 11 per cent, from Mr. Reagan's \$6.6 billion request for foreign military aid.

The funds were shifted to the Export-Import Bank, which underwrites purchases of U.S. goods by foreign countries, and which Mr. Reagan this year proposed eliminating.

Republicans offered an amendment to restore \$369.2 million in military aid and to reduce the bank funding to \$414 million but it failed on a voice vote.

Another Republican move to shift funds from multilateral programmes, including the World Bank, to bilateral programmes failed on a 26 to 14 vote.

## Lebanese parliament ratifies '85 budget

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's parliament Thursday approved a 12.9 billion Lebanese pound (\$806 million) budget for 1985, an increase of about four per cent from last year, parliamentary sources said.

The cabinet approved the 1985 budget last October, but parliament has not been able to meet to ratify it because of fighting in Beirut.

The sources said expenditure approved for this year was about 500 million pounds (\$31 million) from last year's 12.4 billion pound (\$775 million) budget.

Defence was the largest item at 2.4 billion pounds (\$150 million) or about 20 per cent of the budget compared with two billion pounds

(\$125 million) last year, they said.

They 1985 budget deficit was 1.8 billion pounds (\$113 billion) compared with about three billion pounds (\$188 million) last year, the sources said. It was reduced by cutting expenditure for such ministries as public works.

Education was the second largest expenditure this year at 1.6

billion pounds (\$100 million) or about 15 per cent of the total budget, they said.

The sources said a total of 600 million pounds (\$38 million) was allocated to help refugees left homeless by fighting, mainly in southern Lebanon. This expenditure would be covered by foreign aid.

## Venezuela cuts oil prices

CARACAS (OPECNA) — Venezuela cut the price of its heavy and medium crudes Thursday in line with the decision taken by OPEC ministers on July 25 in Geneva.

Energy and mines minister Dr. Arturo Hernandez Grisanti told a press conference here that the average cut in heavy and extra-heavy crudes would be \$1.95, while the average reduction in the case of mediums would be 50 cents a barrel, effective Aug. 1. The overall cut for all varieties would amount to \$1.78.

"Using the facility we have to move the prices of our heavy and extra-heavy crudes in one direction or another, we reduced those prices by \$2 a barrel and only two other types of those crudes were reduced by less than \$2 a barrel," Dr. Hernandez stated.

The price cut, Dr. Hernandez explained, meant an income fall of about \$215 million in 1985, adding that additional income decline would depend on the average volume of exports.

The minister said since mid-July, Venezuela's oil exports had been improving, averaging about 1.27 million b/d, against the yearly goal of 1.41 million b/d.

## Report says 300 U.S. millionaires avoided taxes

WASHINGTON (R) — More than 3,000 U.S. millionaires paid virtually no federal income tax last year, according to a report released Thursday from Congressman Jake Pickle.

The Texas Democrat, quoting data from the Treasury Department, said 29,800 taxpayers with incomes of more than \$250,000 in 1983 paid less than five per cent in income taxes, including 3,170 taxpayers who earned more than \$1 million.

"If anyone had any doubt about the unfairness of our present tax code, these figures should convince them," Mr. Pickle said.

He said most of the high-income taxpayers used tax shelters approved by Congress to reduce their taxable income.

"I don't think we (Congress) ever intended to let wealthy people totally avoid paying taxes. Everyone should have to pay their fair share," Mr. Pickle said.

Mr. Pickle is a member of the Ways and Means Committee, which is considering President Reagan's tax reform proposals. He said a minimum tax provision should be part of any tax reform.

## Peanuts



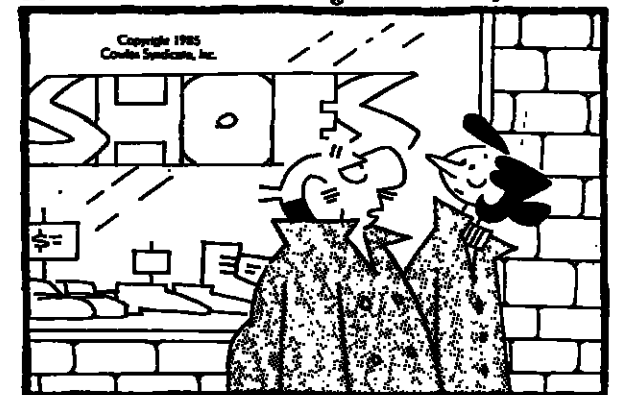
## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CHABT

TALEE

EUGLED

FEWURC

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: " " " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GNOME SHAKY CLAUSE DECEIT

Answer: The "go-getter" knows that the rules for getting ahead won't work unless this happens—HE DOES



# U.S. delays sanctions against South Africa

## Black lawyer shot dead in Durban

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Congress has delayed final approval of anti-apartheid sanctions against South Africa until next month and even then many have to overcome President Reagan's veto.

The House of Representatives overwhelmingly backed sanctions by 380-48 Thursday but conservatives blocked final approval in the Senate before Congress began a month-long recess.

Passage of the sanctions measures in September appeared to be assured because the final bill was essentially the same as one approved 80-12 by the Senate earlier this month.

The White House said Mr. Reagan opposed the sanctions although it would not if he would veto the bill.

If he does, the House and Senate voting margins in favour of sanctions were far higher than the two-thirds majority required to override a presidential veto.

The bill would prohibit U.S. bank loans to South Africa and the sale of nuclear technology and computers that could be used to enforce apartheid. It would also forbid the importation of South African Kruggerand gold coins.

Australia said Friday it had rec-

alled its ambassador to South Africa for talks on a major government review of links with Pretoria.

Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said Robert Birch had been asked to return home for "consultations and advice in respect of the government review of contacts with South Africa."

Mr. Hayden told a hastily-called news conference that the review was moving towards a quick conclusion.

The envoy's withdrawal follows Thursday's decision by the 10 European Community countries as well as Spain and Portugal to recall their ambassadors for talks on possible joint sanctions against the republic following the imposition of a state of emergency in black townships nearly two weeks ago.

Three Foreign ministers from the European Community will visit South Africa, the South African Foreign Ministry announced Friday, and government sources

said they would have top level discussions on the crisis gripping the country.

The Foreign Ministry in Pretoria said the government had agreed to a tour by the ministers from Luxembourg, Italy and the Netherlands. No date was announced but government sources said the visit was likely to take place soon.

The sources said the three ministers, expected here before the ambassadors' departure in early September, would have meetings at the highest government levels.

Meanwhile South African opposition member of parliament Helen Suzman said in London Friday that the shooting of a leading black civil rights lawyer in South Africa Thursday night was a calculated political killing.

"These are very sinister incidents," Ms. Suzman, a veteran anti-apartheid campaigner, said on British Commercial Radio.

Ms. Suzman said the shooting of Victoria Mxenge outside her home in Durban and the deaths of four black anti-apartheid activists from the United Democratic Front in Port Elizabeth in June were all cold-blooded political killings.

"I think there's no doubt about it. Just as the killing of the four UDF people — Mathew Goniwe and Fort Calata and two others — a short while ago near Port Elizabeth was also a calculated political killing. By whom, we have yet to find out," she said.

Victoria Mxenge, one of the lawyers defending 16 members of the United Democratic Front (UDF) on treason charges, was killed by four men in a township on the outskirts of Durban, police said.

Her husband, Griffiths Mxenge, who was also a prominent anti-apartheid lawyer, was stabbed to death in the same area four years ago. His killers have never been found.

A legal colleague said Victoria Mxenge was a vital member of the team representing the UDF members whose trial on charges of plotting to overthrow the state is due to resume on Monday.

Meanwhile a head-on clash appeared imminent as Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu said he was prepared to break new restrictions under Pretoria's emergency laws limiting attendance at township funerals and barring speakers from making political comments.



BOMBING: Workers load debris into a truck after an explosion ripped through a restaurant in Castellon, Spain, Friday. No one was injured in the explosion which police suspect was the work of Basque separatists (AP wirephoto)

## French fire brought under control

CANNES, France (R) — The worst forest fires in southern France for 15 years were finally brought under control Thursday night, as a high-ranking official blamed the government for ignoring proposals he said could have avoided the blaze.

Five firemen have been killed, about 130 people injured and nearly 4,500 hectares (11,200 acres) of forest land destroyed in the fires which began on Wednesday night and swept through the Var and Alpes maritimes regions near the Mediterranean coast.

Local officials said the fire was sparked by the collision of two

high-tension power lines and fanned by a strong mistral wind.

More than 1,000 firefighters backed by water-spraying aircraft struggled through flames and clouds of thick black smoke before finally bringing the fires under control late Thursday evening.

It was the worst blaze in the region since October 1970 when eight people died.

Haroun Tazieff, secretary of state for the prevention of disasters, told French Radio Thursday night the fires had been predicted in a report prepared for Prime Minister Laurent Fabius by his office last March.

He said trees and brush which froze during last year's bitter winter had created a grave danger — an obvious tinderbox — but the government had ignored proposals to clear fire-prone areas of such combustible scrub ahead of the summer.

Officials said Thursday there was no major damage to property on the sparsely-populated Plateau of Tanneron, centre of one of the blazes.

But Louis Moreau, mayor of the town of Mandelieu on the Tanneron Plateau, warned Thursday that erosion caused by the fires could lead to landslides.

## Fighter project launched without France, Spain

BONN (R) — The troubled \$30 billion project to develop a European jet fighter is to go ahead without the participation of France and Spain, a Defence Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Col. Werner Baach, told a regular news conference that West Germany, Britain and Italy had agreed to go ahead with the project, adding that Bonn still hoped Paris and Madrid would still take part.

Col. Baach was speaking after a meeting of armaments directors from the five countries in Turin failed to reach agreement on the project, which has been beset by differences over what sort of plane

should be built.

France wants a lighter air combat model while Britain, West Germany and Italy are set on a heavier ground attack aircraft.

"The armaments directors of Britain, Italy and West Germany have agreed to instruct their industries... (to) begin work without delay," Col. Baach said.

"The two other partners currently still have certain reservations," he added, saying France and Spain would announce in the next few days whether they were joining the project.

West Germany hoped they would decide to take part, he said.

## French Polynesia to hold nuclear test referendum

RAROTONGA, Cook Islands (R) — French Polynesia plans to hold a referendum on France's controversial nuclear test programme whether Paris approves or not, the president of the territory's governing council has said.

The local government would introduce a motion to establish the referendum at the next session of the territorial assembly in November, Gaston Flosse told the Australian Associated Press (AAP) news agency in an interview.

He said he anticipated the motion would be passed without difficulty because it was favoured by virtually all political parties in the territory.

The referendum, on an issue which has angered Polynesia's South Pacific neighbours, is likely to take place without the approval of the French government, which Mr. Flosse said had not responded to the territory's request last year for a vote.

Without endorsement from Paris the referendum would have an uncertain legal status because under the territorial constitution France retains control of the territory's defence and its legal and electoral systems, diplomats said.

France said last week it had no intention of stopping the test programme in the near future.

Mr. Flosse was speaking here before the opening of next week's South Pacific Forum, for which his government is applying for observer status. The forum is an annual meeting of the heads of government of the 13 independent and internally self-governing nations of the region, including Australia and New Zealand.

The French Pacific territories are not forum members and applications for observer status by French Polynesia and the pro-independence movement in the French territory of New Caledonia were very unlikely to succeed, conference sources said.

## Nicaraguan rebel attack claims 45 lives

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan rebels have killed 12 soldiers and lost 33 of their own fighters in one of the most daring attacks of their war against the leftist Sandinista government, the Defence Ministry said.

It said fighting was still going on near the provincial capital of Esteli after the rebels launched a dawn attack on two police posts at La Trinidad, near Esteli about 150 kilometres north of Managua.

Military sources said the fighting on the sixth day of a rebel offensive in the area was among the closest yet to the capital in the three-year rebel fight to topple the Sandinistas.

Rebels of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), which has received backing from the United States, said in a radio broadcast from neighbouring Honduras that the offensive was aimed at sapping the will of the Sandinistas.

The broadcast said roads and bridges would be major targets to disrupt army supply lines. Three bridges have been dynamited in the past week.

Diplomats said that, although the FDN had rarely maintained such a sustained offensive, it had yet to break its hit-and-run pattern and still showed no sign of being able to secure territory.

The 12,000-strong FDN, which has bases in Honduras, includes many former supporters of dictator Anastasio Somoza, overthrown by the Sandinistas in 1979.

The Sandinista army, Central America's strongest, has around 64,000 men and as many again in reserve.

## Astronauts watching sun blasts

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — Challenger's astronauts, conducting studies ranging from growing beans to watching nuclear explosions on the sun, sailed into the second half of their mission Friday, while researchers on the ground said they were "overwhelmed" with the data being gathered.

Chilean police chiefs offer resignations over murders

SANTIAGO (R) — Chile's military government has ordered the arrest of 14 police officers accused by a judge of involvement in the murder of three Communists in March, and two of the force's top generals have submitted their resignations.

The moves were announced in a statement issued Thursday night after a two-hour meeting between President Augusto Pinochet, the military junta, senior cabinet ministers and the heads of security forces.

The statement, read by government Secretary General Francisco Cuadra, said the 14 policemen had been dismissed from the service and taken into custody.

It added that the deputy director of the para-military police, Gen. Rodolfo Stange, and the third ranking officer, Gen. Carlos Donoso, had offered their resignations to the president. It did not say if they had been accepted.

Judge Jose Canovas, appointed to investigate the murders when the bodies of the three men were found in a ditch with their throats cut, ruled Friday the case should be turned over to military courts because police were responsible.

## Bolivian congress to vote for president

LA PAZ (R) — The Bolivian Congress meets Saturday to elect a new president under the threat of violence if it fails to choose the victor of last month's general elections.

Supporters of former military ruler Hugo Banzer, who took 28 percent of the vote in elections on July 14, have called for street demonstrations if congress does not endorse his victory.

Victor Paz Estenssoro, who has

held the office twice before and came a close second in the election, is assured of having more supporters in congress because of his strength in the less populated rural areas and Mr. Banzer's election is far from certain.

Congress, which was elected in the same vote, was left with the task of choosing the president when no candidate emerged with an outright majority.

Many observers believe 77-

year-old Paz Estenssoro will romp home in the congress vote, especially as his old allies on the left will hold a sizeable minority under Bolivia's proportional representation system.

The victor will inherit one of the world's poorest nations, with annual inflation at 8,900 per cent, debts to foreign banks unpaid for 16 months and a black market that accounts for up to three-quarters of economic activity.

## Malagasy reports 20 killed in military-Kung Fu Clash

ANTANARIVO (R) — The Malagasy government said 20 people were killed and 31 injured in clashes between troops and Kung Fu Martial arts fanatics, accused of wanting to seize political power.

Among the dead was Pierre Misael Andrianarijaona, considered the "grand master" of Kung Fu on this Indian Ocean island, said a government statement carried by the official Radio Madagascar.

Some 208 arrests were made and 295 rifle cartridges were seized, the radio added.

The government had decided to storm Mr. Andrianarijaona's house and other Kung Fu strongholds in a suburb of the capital to put an end to the "existence of a

state within the state", it said.

The statement said Kung Fu fans had declared "their wish to seize power and to create a new political order based on religion and the laws of Kung Fu."

Kung Fu was banned in Madagascar in September last year. Officials had said the ban was to stem urban crime committed mainly by martial arts practitioners.

Last December, Kung Fu followers were accused of attacking a youth camp, where 60 people died in fighting.

The official statement said the authorities decided Thursday night to smash the menace of the Kung Fu fanatics in a populous district of the capital.

## Marcos challenges opposition

MANILA (R) — President Ferdinand Marcos has challenged his political opposition, warning he is ready to call a snap presidential election and dissolve the National Assembly.

The threat came in a five-hour caucus of the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) ending after midnight which housed in an opposition moves to impeach Mr. Marcos and the impact it would have on the national economic recovery programme.

Although couched in terms leaving room for manoeuvre, statements issued by the presidential palace indicated Mr. Marcos might run for re-election before his current six-year term ends in 1987.

Mr. Marcos has been in power for 20 years — nearly nine of them under martial law — and until Friday has been insistent that he would not call an election ahead of schedule.

But an early election would meet reported U.S. pressure on Mr. Marcos that he seeks a fresh mandate from the people.

KBL sources believe the opposition is too disorganised to mount an effective campaign against Mr. Marcos despite a catalogue of issues it could throw at him.

These include the still-unresolved murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino just two years ago, and allegations that Mr. Marcos, his wife, Imelda, and many of their closest associates have investments totalling millions of dollars in the United States and elsewhere.

U.S. officials also have expressed concern about Mr. Marcos' health — he was seriously ill last year — a growing Communist insurgency in most of the country and the continued deterioration of the economy.

"The main issues really are the economy and the peace and

order" situation and both are manageable," a KBL source told Reuters. "The only 'unmanageable' issue would be his health and obviously that is all right or else he would not even consider an election now."

The opposition's main hope is to agree a single candidate. The most likely is former Senator Salvador Laurel, president of the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO), which claims the support of most of the 48 opposition assemblies.

But the opposition seems divided and/or much of this year has tried vainly to work out a formula for choosing a challenger.

Mr. Laurel said in a statement Friday the opposition was ready for elections "and so are the people, who have already rejected this repugnant regime."

The recently-mounted campaign for impeachment Marcos is based largely on allegations in U.S. newspapers/reprinted here, of vast overseas wealth amassed by the president, his family and close associates.

But an impeachment motion, damaging as it would be to Mr. Marcos' image, would stand no chance in the KBL-dominated assembly.

KBL stalwarts believe the "hidden wealth" issue would have little impact outside Manila, but they acknowledge that the distressed economy and the rebel insurgency are serious problems.

They also privately admit that the president's choice of running mate might also be snag, especially if he nominates his politically-ambitious and powerful wife Imelda Marcos.

"On his own, against anybody, he would be unbeatable," said one KBL source close to the presidency. "If the first lady is the vice-presidential candidate, well, that might be slightly different."



## 4 tiger cubs found in Arab villages

TEL AVIV (AP) — Four Bengal tiger cubs have been found in Arab villages in northern Israel, apparently left behind by a travelling circus, the Haaretz newspaper reported Friday. The report said authorities from the Nature Reserve, Israel's National Parks Service, found the two-month-old cubs after hearing that villagers had been seen cuddling the cats in their arms. The four cubs were in three separate villages. Still playful and harmless, the cubs are beginning to bite and will have to be caged with in a month, Haaretz said. The newspaper said the cubs apparently were born during a tour by the Medrano Circus and were given away or sold. The European company left Israel about a month ago.

## 1 dead, 1 hurt in police duel

MANILA (R) — A police captain in Manila shot dead a fellow officer who had reprimanded him over the length of his hair, police said. The captain was wounded in the gunfight between the two men. It was the 15th killing of a policeman this year in Manila, including six last month alone.

## Woman gives birth on Jumbo jet

HONG KONG (R) — An extra passenger joined a Cathay Pacific jumbo jet when a woman travelling to Australia gave birth to a boy in the galley, the Hong Kong airline has said. A spokesman said passenger on the flight to Sydney cheered as the captain announced: "Ladies and gentlemen, we've had an extra passenger join us — he's a six pound (2.7 kilogramme) baby boy." A doctor and nurse on board cleared a threatened breach birth to deliver the baby, the first child of Ho Fung Yui-Yee, 22, who lives with her husband in Sydney, the spokesman said. The mother fell asleep after the birth while her son was placed in a makeshift cot, he said.

## Square trees found in China

PEKING (R) — Chinese experts are puzzling over trees with square trunks found near the eastern city of Wenzhou. The Shanghai newspaper Wen Hui Bao said the trees were between three and five metres high with trunks about 10 cm from corner to corner.

## Organ reattached after operation

VANCOUVER (R) — Surgeons have reattached the severed penis of a man in his early 20s in an operation believed to be the first of its kind in Canada, hospital officials have said. A plastic surgeon and a urologist reattached the penis after seven hours of microsurgery. The man was reported in good condition but officials said it would be about 10 days before they knew how successful the surgery had been. Urologist Dr. John Masterson said the operation has been reported only about 30 times in the world and of those, "well over half have been successful."

But he said it was not known how many of those men regained the ability to function sexually. The hospital would not release the man's name or say how the penis was severed.

## Soviet scientists make rain

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet scientists have carried out a few experiments spraying clouds with chemicals to create artificial rain to feed farmlands, TASS news agency said. The rainmakers, from an observatory in Leningrad, tested their method over a north-western area whose lakes and rivers flow into key grain producing lands in southern Russia. Other scientists were working on ways to prevent hail and, using rockets with coagulants, were already saving 100 million roubles (\$115 million) worth of crops annually, the news agency said. They were also trying to increase snowfalls in the Ukrainian steppe to boost grain yields. Last weekend airmen blasted rain clouds with chemicals to prevent a thunderstorm marring the opening ceremony of the World Youth Festival in Moscow.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### THE TALE OF THE TWO OF DIAMONDS

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series we will go back to our weekly column and answer column.

Both vulnerable. South deals.  
NORTH  
♠ 94  
♥ A852  
♦ 98  
♣ J973  
WEST  
♠ 102  
♥ K19643  
♦ K432  
♣ 10

EAST  
♠ QJ87  
♥ Q107  
♦ QJ10  
♣ K654  
SOUTH  
♠ A653  
♥ Void  
♦ AQ875  
♣ A82

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 1 NT Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠.  
The Two of Diamonds was resplendent in his scarlet coat. "It's the award for the best defense at the recent Biarritz tournament," he boasted proudly to anyone who remarked on his attire. As witnesses of the event, we can testify that the coat is all his glory matched the quality of the play.  
It was in the final of the team

event, and both sides ended in four spades. "I hardly thought I would feature in the play," remarked the Two. "I was part of such a drab collection."

"At both tables the lead was the ten of clubs, and dummy's jack was allowed to win. But the defense soon parted ways. In one room, declarer led a diamond to the queen, and West won the king. It made no difference what West returned. In practice, he chose a heart. Declarer won on the table, discarding a club from hand, and led the nine of diamonds. When the jack appeared, the diamond suit was high, so declarer won the ace and led the ace, king and another spade. The defenders got two trump tricks in addition to the diamond, but that was that. The contract was home."

"In my room I was in the possession of one of the world's great players. Here, too, a diamond was finessed at the second trick, but my expert smoothly played me to the trick! It all looked so easy to declarer."

"He continued with the ace of diamonds and a diamond ruff in dummy, fully expecting East to produce the king. But East over ruffed. Another diamond ruff by East provided the entry for another club lead, and our ruff was the fourth and setting trick for the defense."

"A curious case. Where the defenders scored a diamond trick, the contract was made. Where they did not, it was defeated."

## Specialists see little sign of AIDS cure

BRIGHTON, England (R) — World doctors who spent three days discussing ways of finding a cure for the killer disease AIDS have concluded that the prospects are bleak but not totally without hope.

The doctors met this week at a conference in Brighton sponsored by the International Society of Sexually-Transmitted Disease Researchers.

One of them said: "I think it's quite wrong to give the impression that there's a cure around the corner."

Another, American specialist Thomas Quinn, said: "We have made great progress but there is still a long way to go."

Conference Chairman Doctor John Harris told Reuters: "Despite the fact that we have isolated the virus, if you have AIDS you are still where you were a few years ago."

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) kills by destroying the body's natural defences against disease.

It was first diagnosed among homosexuals in the United States in 1981.

The plight of Aidskilled star Rock Hudson, who is suffering from AIDS, has highlighted the hunt for a cure.

One participant in a British AIDS research party said the scientific basis for a cure existed following the isolation of the virus at

the U.S. Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, and the Pasteur Institute in Paris last year.

But delegates discouraged speculation about a wonder cure saying that it raised false hopes in patients and undermined attempts to stop promiscuity — one way of halting the advance of the AIDS virus into the general population.

Some even expressed doubts about the chances of finding a cure.

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"I don't think you will ever have a cure for AIDS," Doctor Alvin Glasky, director of the Newport Institute for Medical Research, in California, told the conference.

But he suggested it might be possible to halve the number of people who contracted AIDS by strengthening the immune system of those with the virus. This could save as many as 75,000 lives in the United States over the next three years or so, he said.

The fight against AIDS is being waged on two fronts, delegates at the Brighton conference said.

Some researchers are seeking ways to kill the virus. Others, particularly in the United States and France, are experimenting with "anti-viral" drugs to keep the virus in check or "immuno-stimulators" to reinforce besieged immune systems.

Dr. Quinn, of the U.S. National Institute of Allergic and Infectious Diseases in Bethesda, said that so far there was no sign of a drug that could kill off the virus.

"There is no drug at the present time, that I'm aware of, that holds a cure for this disease," he said.

Until such a time as there is one, the main hope appears to lie with anti-viral drugs or immuno-stimulators. But Dr. Quinn acknowledged that these would not lead to a complete cure.

Dr. Glasky and others have carried out preliminary trials suggesting that a drug used to treat herpes, the 1970s scare disease, goes some way towards bolstering the immune system.

But although anti-virals suppress the virus in test-tube experiments, tests with people have only just begun.

"It's a bit bleak but it's always possible that some of these drugs might be able to prolong survival to a time when we might have a more effective drug," Dr. Quinn said.